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*Printed at the Hindoo Patriot Press.*

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

# THE HINDOO PATRIOT

## With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

*REGISTERED No. 44.*

*PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.*

VOLUME XXVII. NUMBER 1.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1880.

*Per Annum in Advance.*
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.


## THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 29TH DECEMBER.

WE OBSERVE that a movement has been set on foot by Babu Keshub Chunder Sen for a memorial in honor of the late Raja Rammohun Roy. A meeting was held at the Albert Hall on last Thursday, Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, presiding. The following Resolutions were passed at that meeting:

"That subscriptions be set on foot with the view to secure a fitting memorial of Rajah Ram Mohun Roy."

"That the following gentlemen (with power to add to their number) be appointed a committee to give effect to the above resolution:—Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, Baboo Dejendronath Tagore, Baboo Joy Gopal Sen, Baboos Shamachurn Sircar, Protapchunder Mozumdar, and the Reverd C. H. A. Dall."

"That Baboo Krishna Behari Sen, M. A., be appointed Secretary and Treasurer."

This we believe is the second movement of its kind. About a year ago Babu Debendranath Tagore had called a meeting for this purpose, but for some reason or other the project has fallen through. Babu Keshub Chunder Sen has now headed another. We might mention that sometime ago Babu Rajnarain Bose had taken the initiative to put the movement on a catholic basis, and were it not for the unfortunate death of Rajah Degumber Mitter it would have been ere this a *fait accompli*. We need hardly say that there could not be a more enduring monument of Raja Rammohun Roy than the Brahma Sumaj he established. Apart from his merits as a religious reformer, he was a true patriot, and his memory certainly deserves to be cherished by the nation. But if a "fitting memorial" could not be got up, we think it would be better not to attempt any thing, which would not be worthy of the great man. The meeting would have done well by announcing the form which the memorial would take. We doubt whether the present time is opportune for the movement. There are already heavy bids for subscriptions. Firstly, there is the Hindu Hostel fund, secondly, the Fund for the sick and wounded in the Affghan war, thirdly, the Fund for Lord Northbrook's Indian Institute for Indian youths in London, fourthly, the fund for Dr. Monier Williams' Home for Indian youths, and lastly the fund started by the Indian Association for the maintenance of a permanent Indian Agent in England. These various calls are, indeed, very heavy for the subscription-paying public of India. We believe there is a portrait of the Raja in the house of the late Babu Ramaprosad Roy and a bust somewhere. Can't these be presented to the public and placed at the Town Hall?

THE REV. MR. R. S. MACDONALD has published a paper on the late Raja Rammohun Roy. The publication is very opportune. The paper contains many interesting annecdotes of the great Indian Reformer. It thus concludes:

> Altogether Rajah Ram Mohun Roy, was a great religious Reformer, far in advance of his time, and his name should be held in loving remembrance by his countrymen and by all interested in the social and religious welfare of India. His memorial at present is not in stone or book nor yet on canvass, not much to the credit of the country which has the honor of his birth and which he so faithfully served. It is in the hearts of men fast passing away from among us and in a few stray sketches of no pretensions, found in the soon forgotten pages of pamphlets and periodicals.

We do not quite agree with the Reverend gentleman. The Sumaj founded by Raja Rammohun Roy is we believe destined to outlive ages.

AFTER TWO MONTHS' cogitation the *Pioneer* has published a critique on the last administration report of the Calcutta Municipality. The writer deserves credit for so closely imitating the vituperative style of the late Health-officer of the Calcutta Corporation. He has not much to say about the general contents of the report; he naturally feels more interested in the observations on the sanitary condition of the town. This chapter of the report as we shewed in a recent issue combats the one-sided statements of the late Heath-officer, which are, the writer observes, as a critic said of Johnson's Dictionary, "very interesting to read, but rather unconnected." He continues:

> The learned reporter does not even attempt to bring his rays to a focus or tell us what he means. He will not produce for us the Health Officer's conclusion, for it obliterates the bright picture drawn on the next page of advancing conservancy. It will not do for the reporter to father a statement of frightful normal mortality attending undisturbed filth, as great now as t[illegible] ten years ago; or to recognize only in exceptional years the action of uncontrollable causes. This would be too hard on the town guardians, so the latter causes are put forth that we may, if we are dull enough ascribe the whole mortality to them. Logic, however, of a certain kind is not wanting to the schooled Bengali, and we suspect he is not to blame for depriving this passage of all point and meaning. Has Mr. Souttar reserved only his opinion? Have not his sheares been at work on this page, clipping the writer's wings to moderate their flapping? Has he not condensed some unhealthy vapours here, and converted a breathing, though disordered body into a heap of disjointed members—for Mr. Souttar is a prudent man but the writer is less so for he has forgotten to join the ends of his broken thread.

The writer thus concludes:

> We have not written of this report with any desire to condemn the Commissioners of Calcutta without regard to their merits. We have plodded wearily through its pages in the belief that, sooner or later, we must find some work to admire, some opinion that we could treat with respect. We have failed not because there is no good work done in Calcutta or good men to do it, but because the Corporation have suffered the public presentation of their work to be assumed by men, who are governed by a prurient desire to persuade the world that they are gifted beings, deeply learned in things which no one can suppose them for a moment to understand or expect, or wish them to understand; men who will strive to shine as critics of scientific work, and in their efforts exemplify all that the most cynical have ever said against Native education. There are worthy citizens in Calcutta, who devote time and labor gratuitously and earnestly to the service of the town they live in; but their sober work will miss the public credit it deserves until they emancipate themselves from the bondage which the arrogant vanity of their self-appointed spokesmen now imposes on them; until they shake off their servility to the garrulous tongues of the egotists, whom even Sir Ashley Eden has hitherto failed to silence.

The cat is out of the bag. It is the "self-appointed spokesmen" of the Corporation, audacious enough to criticize the scientific work of the Health-Officer, who are alone to blame. It was for abusing these "spokesmen" the late Health-Officer got a vote of censure, which we fear he will never forget. He calls Mr. Souttar a "prudent man," but there was another officer who has given the best proof of the truth of the old saying—prudence the better part of valour. He has retreated from the Municipal office, leaving a name behind for official obliquity, intolerance, insubordination, and ingratitude, which will we fear long survive his high scientific reputation.

A CORRESPONDENT at Wardha writes to us to say that the people of Seoni, Central Provinces, laments much the transfer of Babu Kali Krishna Ghose, officiating Civil Surgeon, who endeared himself to them by his attention, kindness and affability.

BY WAY of retort to the charge so often brought by petty-minded Englishmen of "Babu-English" against imperfectly educated natives, a correspondent sends us a very good specimen of "English-Bengali." We would advise him to be charitable.

WE HAVE received a copy of *Potrobodh*, Letter-Writer in Hindi, adapted to the use of Indian students, who recieve instruction in Hindi. It has been prepared by the second master of the Normal School, Ranchi. It is a useful publication.

TUESDAY, 30TH DECEMBER.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Serampore:

> At a meeting of the Municipal Commissioners held on the morning of the 20th December, Baboo Shibodass Banerjee, an elected Commissioner, proposed, and Babu Kadir Nath Chatterjee, another elected Commissioner seconded, that sincere congratulations of the Municipal Commissioners, be offered to His Excellency the Viceroy on his narrow escape from being shot by the hands of a ruffian, an East Indian. This was carried unanimously, Mr. S Tremearne, the ViceChairman observing that it was highly gratifying to find this compliment coming from the representatives of the rate-payers of the first elected Municipality in Bengal.
>
> At a meeting of the Sanitary Sub-Committee in which Mr. R. Carstairs, the Chairman, the Medical Officer and a Chattra Commissioner were present, it was proposed by the Civil Medical Officer that Hindoo Pauper dead bodies instead of being buried as there are no funds to burn them, be placed in an open square and there be eaten up by vultures. As this was quite repugnant to the feelings of the Hindoos the Commissioners rejected this proposal at the general meeting. It is to be regretted that the Chairman allowed such an absurd proposition to be brought forward at the Meeting.
>
> Mr. Tremearne has not as yet obtained any powers as Vice-Chairman though the Lieutenant-Governor approved of his election in January last. Such mockeries are simply incomprehensible. Government will do well if it once reads the proceedings of the Commissioners for one year. It will then see that Mr. Tremearne is to the Serampore Municipality what the redoubted Mr. J. B. Roberts was to the Calcutta Municipality. Such officers deserve encouragement at the hands of Government.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED in a recent issue the receipt of a copy of a book entitled "Bhishoochika Bejoy" by Babu Basant Coomar Dutt. It is a homœopathic publication, which the author has compiled with much care and labour.

IT IS stated that a quarter of a million of pounds will be spent upon the Melbourne Exhibition.

THE NEWS comes from South Australia that an Agricultural College will be established there, and that a measure is before the local Parliament for the introduction of Indian coolies.

IN QUEENSLAND a proposal had been made by Bishop Bugnion to the Government to introduce fifty Mennonite families from the South of Russia. The Government appear willing to pay half the cost of passage-money. Why are the "Poor Whites" of India rejected?

THE CEYLON OBSERVER furnishes some noteworthy statistics relative to cinnamon planting in the Colony. Of late this article has fallen heavily in price. Local quotations used to be 1s. 3d. to 2s. per lb., and it can now only realise 7d. to 10d. Out of this amount no less than 4½d. per lb. has to be paid for the operation of peeling, leaving but a small balance at present rates quoted for cultivation and transport. That journal observes that it is difficult to account for the falling-off in the exports, which stood at 1,262,250 lbs. of baled and 258, 381 lbs. of chips in 1876, but which are now reduced to 1,219, 106 lbs. of baled and 188,518lbs. of chips for the past year. It is thought that as an article of luxury largely used on the continent the depressed state of trade had caused a falling-off.

DETAILS have been received of the disastrous effects of the great rain floods which visited Jamaica between October 11 and 14. The loss of life and property had been immense, far beyond what is recorded as having occurred on any previous occasion. The coffee trees were covered with ripening berries at the time, and these have all been washed off. A large, substantially built Wesleyan Chapel on the Cane River, had been entirely destroyed by the floods, and its site and that of the graveyard surrounding it are now only marked by a mass of boulders. Hundreds of people are reduced to a most distressed and bereaved state, and subscription lists have been opened in Kingston for their relief.

THE FOLLOWING are the details of the late attempt on the life of the Czar of Russia: It seems that, closely following the train by which the Czar travelled to Moscow was another train conveying his luggage. When this arrived about three versts from Moscow Station a mine was fired from an adjacent house. The explosion blew one of the vans to pieces, threw seven other vehicles off the line, and made in the permanent way a gap sixteen feet long eighteen feet wide, and nearly five feet deep. As soon as possible a search was made for the perpetrators of this outrage, but the house from which the mine was fired was found to be empty.

IN A LECTURE delivered before the Literary and Philosophical Society, Sheffield, Professor Monier Williams described how harmony is preserved in an Indian family—which often consists of 50 persons living under one roof—by vesting supreme authority in a grandfather or grandmother. He dilated on the evil of child marriages, which are like a canker eating into the very heart of Indian society, and dwelt on the gross ignorance of the women of India as one principal cause of the superstition and idolatry prevalent everywhere, maintaining at the same time that an Indian home presented much deserving of admiration, and even of imitation.

WEDNESDAY, 31ST DECEMBER.

IN VIEW of the Dog Show at our Zoo we give the following account of a Dog Show at Birmingham:

> The twentieth annual dog show held by the National Society in the Curzon Exhibition Hall was numerous and excellent. Besides bloodhounds, deerhounds, greyhounds and other hounds, harriers and beagles; pointers, setters, retrievers, and spaniels; mastiffs, St. Bernards and Newfoundlands; bulldogs, bull terriers, and fox terriers; Dalmatians, Dachshunds, Dandie Dinmonts, pugs, poodles, and toy dogs of every description, there was several distinguished foreigners of the canine race, one of them being a native of Kandahar, and the only dog of his kind known to have been brought to Europe. This noteworthy animal, on whom the name of Shere Ali has been conferred, is exhibited by Captain Hartshorne, of the much talked-of and long-to-be-remembered "Kelat-i-Gilzie" regiment, and is an intended present to her Majesty. Another very remarkable foreign dog, though not a stranger in every sense of the word, is Lady Emily Peele's Russian wolf-dog, who has made his appearance in public on two or three previous occasions. Norway and China are among the nations represented quadrupedally at the metropo-

lis of the Midlands. But, of course, all those visitors who look round them with the eyes of English 'sportsmen will leave to the merely curious an attentive consideration of these outlandish animals. Far more interesting to practical men will be the choice little pack of harriers entered *en masse* by the Earl of Pembroke, and the capital displays of field-dogs by those distinguished lovers of sport, who yearly support this interesting exhibition. There are altogether 975 dogs at Curzon Hall, the number being the same as last year's and, indeed, the maximum rigidly set by the committee. In 1877 there were exactly a thousand animals, and these were found to be somewhat in excess of the accommodation which the building affords. So the total in 1878 was cut down by a quarter of a hundred, and the hall seems as full as it can comfortably be. The varieties classified are not fewer than 47, the largest sections being fox-terriers and sheep-dogs, each of which different breeds is represented by 96 specimens. Then come the pointers of which there are 62; then the retrievers, to the number of 54; and then the English setters, mustering 49.

IN THE ROLLS COURT in Dublin, a novel case was heard. The plaintiff, who is a barrister, told a story that would have formed a feature in the career of Sinbad the Sailor. His uncle, a quartermaster-sergeant, had come home from foreign service nearly forty years ago, with four trunks full of gold, the accumulation, not of hoarded wealth, but of looting in cities in India, which had been given up to pillage. Having displayed the treasure to Mr. Charles Malone, the latter advised, with lawyer-like sagacity, that his uncle should invest it or deposit it in a bank. The uncle, however, had the failure of the Agra Bank before his eyes, and determined to keep it himself; but with that self-sacrifice which is only ascribed to old maiden aunts, announced his intention to die a celibate and leave the golden store to Charles. Time rolled on, and the uncle at last paid the debt of nature. But Mr. Malone was so embarrassed with litigation when the event occurred that he did not assert a claim to the wealth of the defunct quatermaster-sergeant. For thirty years he has lain dormant to his interests, and now, waking up like Rip Van Winkle, is astonished to find that his claim will not be recognised by the widow of the man who, he says, appropriated what was intended for him. The Master of the Rolls was greatly interested in his story, but could do nothing to help him.

THE VICTORY of the Chilians over the combined Peruvian and Bolivian army gives them possession over the whole coast north of their own territory as far as Pisagua, including Iquique in Peru, as well as the whole of the disputed territory. This success will probably ensure the definite triumph of the Chilian arms.

IN THE last ten years the export of tea from China to Great Britain has increased from 142,111,486 pounds to 153,399,753, while the export from British India to Great Britain has grown from 9,095,444 pounds to 31,245,251.

THE FOLLOWING statistics relating to France are interesting: Fifty-three per cent. of the population of France are engaged in agriculture, 26 per cent. in manufacturing and other industries, 14 per cent. in trade, and 4 per cent. in the liberal professions, the remainder being returned as of no occupation.

THE salary of the Archbishop of Canterbury is £15,000 a year, and those of 30 archbishops and bishops average £5,350; on the other hand, out of 13,000 of the clergy, only 259 get more than £1,000 a year, and 12,991 get less than £200, while more than 1,000 get less than £100.

THERE WERE 271 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 20th December, of which 110 were from fever, 29 from bowel-complaints, 14 from cholera, 5 from accidents, 16 from pthisis and lung diseases, 16 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Fourteen children were still-born and 7 persons died from old age. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 12.

### THURSDAY, 1ST JANUARY.

THE BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION have forwarded to the Viceroy a letter of congratulation on his recent escape. The following reply of His Excellency was conveyed through his Private Secretary:

I have laid before His Excellency the Viceroy your letter of the 19th instant, conveying the congratulations of the Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association on the escape of their Excellencies from the shots fired at their carriage on the occasion of their arrival in Calcutta.

In reply I am directed to request that you will communicate to the Committee the cordial thanks of their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Lytton for their congratulations, and for the sentiments expressed in your letter. I beg to add my own thanks.

THE HIGH COURT has issued the following rules for the enrolment of Pleaders in the Calcutta Small Cause Court under the new Legal Practitioners' Act:

All persons admitted as recognized Pleaders of the Calcutta Small Cause Court under the 49th Rule of Practice, or under the Resolution of the Judges of that Court dated the 15th June 1869, who were actually practising as such immediately prior to the 1st January 1880 shall be deemed qualified, and may, on application made as hereinafter provided, and on the payment of a fee of Rs. 25, be thereupon admitted, and may continue to practise as Pleaders of the said Court after the said date under the provisions of Section 6 of the said Act.

Applications for admission under the above rule shall be presented to such officer as the Judges of the Small Cause Court may appoint for the purpose, and shall be accompanied by a treasury receipts showing that the fee above prescribed has been paid by applicant to the credit of Government, and by a blank sheet of stamped paper of the value of Rs. 25.

The application and the papers accompanying it shall be forwarded to the High Court with a certificate by the Judges that the applicant is a person entitled to admission under Rule 1 above, and the proper officer of the High Court shall thereupon issue to the applicant the certificate prescribed by Section 7 of the said Act.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Ampta complains that "the works for the construction of the wooden bridges over the canals that intersect the road from Ampta to Depa are at a stand-still. The materials for the work such as posts and planks were long indented for and they have been placed near the canals. The earthworks have not yet been completed and they will not be taken in hand until proper arrangements are made by the contractor by engaging a sufficient number of coolies in the middle or at the end of January. But as the dry season advances the difficulties of execution will increase, the soil of the Kadoa fields will be very hard and offer great resistance to the strokes of the spade. It is to be hoped the Executive-Engineer and the overseer in immediate charge of the work will take the necessary steps to ensure early operations. The secret of the delay we hear, lies in the fact that the sub-contractors have received no remuneration for the works they have already finished."

OUR KRISHNAGHUR Correspondent writes:

It is proposed to hold an Agricultural Exhibition and Cattle Show at Krishnaggar and the first Exhibition will be held in February of this year. It will commence on the 12th February and continue to the end of the 17th idem. Shopkeepers will be allowed to commence their sales four days prior to the date of opening and continue them for four days after the conclusion of the Show. The programme of the Mela comprises exhibition of fruits, flowers, manufactures, winter and other crops implements of husbandry, machinery, works of art, dairy produce, Cattle and poultry. There will besides be wrestling, gymnastic performances and racing and Jattras, theatricals and fire-works every evening. The whole will conclude with the distribution of prizes and alms-giving. Subscriptions will be received from the public both in and out of the district by Babu Woomesh Chunder Dutt, Professor Krishnaghur College, who has been appointed treasurer, and samples for exhibition will be received by Baboo Tarapuddo Banerjee, Secretary to the Managing Committee. The *elite* of the native community of Krishnaggur are invited and the movement has been matured and brought to fruition by the exertions of the pleaders of Krishnaggur to whom great credit is due.

### FRIDAY, 2ND JANUARY.

WE ARE sorry to learn from a correspondent at Contai that small-pox is committing terrible ravages in that sub-division, and that some member of almost every family is laid up, and the casualties are heavy. There are vaccinators, but they lie scattered here and there, and many having commenced work late, their operations do not protect the victims. A rapid extension of the epidemic is feared from the reckless exposure of the dead on the burning and buryal grounds and the fields, and the authorities it is said take no measures for the prevention of the nuisance.

WE ARE glad to learn from a Chhatak correspondent that that district has been blessed with a bumper harvest this year and prices are going down daily. The only people, who suffer under this blessing, are the dealers, who had laid by stores of grain in anticipation of scarcity, and are in haste to dispose of their stores at any price.

WE WOULD invite the attention of Mr. Waterfield, the Comptroller General, to the following budget of complaints connected with the Treasury Account Branch:

Though the Government is very liberal in regard to establishment there are arrears in this office and instead of the real cause to which they are due being ascertained the clerks are made to attend early and work late; their pay and the prescribed holidays are stopped. The late attendance on solitary occasion by a few minutes involves loss of half pay and yet they are made to work till 6 P. M., Mr. Taylor is assisted by two Gazetted officers and has received an accession of 22 clerks and yet things have not improved. This is owing probably to jobbery, the new hands employed being chiefly proteges of some big official and quite unfit for any important work; secondly, Mr Taylor has thrown upon the audit clerks and accountants work which it was never their province to do, such as registering their own drafts, these clerks have often to wait for the register when another clerk is engaged with it; thirdly, every one of these clerks has to submit a daily report of work which necessitates submission of written explanations on some point or other. Another ground of complaint is that though the business in arrear might concern any particular branch, the whole office suffers for it, by the denial of holidays and stoppage of pay. Often some branches are unnessarily made to attend on holidays though by so doing it is not possible for them to advance work. For example on the last Kalipuja occasion, the Bill issue dept and the General Treasury Branch, were made to attend though they had business with the Bank of Bengal, and the Bank was closed on that occasion.

MR. GEORGE, Treasurer to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, requests us to mention that the Maharaja of Hutwa has contributed Rs. 600 to the St. Vincent Charities.

THE FOLLOWING Indian gentlemen have passed successfully the final examination at the Inns of Courts: Mr. Barada Das Bose and Mr. Abul Fazl, M. Abdul Rahaman, of the Inner Temple, Mr. V. K. Dhairyavan, Mr. Abul Hasan Khan, Mr. Abdul Haleem, and Mr. Muhammad Serajuddin, of the Middle Temple. Mr. Barada Das Bose, of the Inner Temple was called to the Bar on November 17.

THE BRAHMO PUBLIC OPINION is glad to learn that appointments in the confidential Departments of the Foreign Office will now be open to Hindus, Mahamedans, and Eurasians alike. Mr. Plowden has appointed a promising young Bengali graduate of the Calcutta University, Babu Purna Chundra Mittra, to 4th grade assistantship.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA have ordered that their thanks should be conveyed to Syud Wilayet Ali Khan, C. I. E., and Moulvi Fazl-ul Rahman, of Patna, for the loyal spirit which induced them to offer a contribution of 5,000 rupees each towards the expenses of the Cabul expedition. The offered donations have not been accepted, as no precedent exists for the acceptance of such contributions to the general revenues.—*Press Commissioner.*

THE MAHARAJA OF DOOMRAON has on his own account been purchasing and despatching warm clothing for the sick and wounded in the Affghan War, and commissioned to Calcutta, his energetic manager Babu Joyprokash, for that purpose. The Maharaja we are told has made extensive purchases.

THE LONDON correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* sends the following cutting from a London newspaper:

"If our troops in Afghanistan were accompanied by any independent correspondents, their accounts would set the country in a blaze of indignation. Our commanders are veritably carrying a fiery sword through the country, burning villages, executing their inhabitants, and destroying everything that falls in their way—and this at the commencement of a severe winter. The Turks in Bulgaria and the Russians in Poland and the Caucasus never were more ruthless. The accounts are so monstrous as to be almost incredible. If true, General Roberts must be in a state of panic, and intent on establishing a reign of terror throughout this unfortunate country. What does the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol say to these missionary proceedings?"

It is strange how these facts get into the London papers. We do hope that there is no foundation for them.

### SATURDAY, 3RD JANUARY.

A CURIOUS case is pending before the Suburban Magistrate. A respectable native gentleman, who is an amateur homœopath, had out of pure philanthropy treated a cholera case and administered arsenic to the patient, who has however died. This gentleman has been charged with manslaughter. Evidently there will be a contest between Allopathy and Homœopathy in this trial.

CONGRATULATORY addresses to His Excellency the Viceroy on his fortunate escape from Dessa's shot are pouring in. We have received several copies but we regret we have not space for them all.

THE FANCY FAIR at the Seven Tanks on New Year's Day was a great success. Thousands of persons had flocked to see the wonders of the Fair. We hope our charities have netted a large surplus.

WE PUBLISH in another column an announcement that Dr. Naylor has resumed private practice. Dr. Naylor's skill as a physician is well known.

WE CONGRATULATE the *National Paper* on the enlargement of its size within so short a time. We wish our contemporary every success in his new enterprize.

WE REGRET to notice that circumstances prevented Mr. Yule from returning to India soon, and that he has therefore resigned the Presidentship of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Yule had revived the Chamber, and his absence from Calcutta is a matter of universal regret. Mr. Inglis takes his place as President of the Chamber. He is also an able man, but we are sorry to hear that he too intends to go home soon.

IT IS said that Sir Richard Temple is a candidate for Parliamentary election. We have no doubt that he will make an improvement upon Sir George Campbell. We believe that he will not quit India till the next general elections.

WE HAVE received a copy of the Rules for the open competition for the Indian Civil Service for this year. No material alterations have been made in the subjects for examination.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has appproved of the abolition of the Agricultural Department. His Despatch is published in this morning's *Gazette of India.*

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivari* contains a capital cartoon of the Old Year. The letter-press and other drawings are also good.

WE HAVE much pleasure in noticing that that valuable medical publication, the *Indian Medical Gazette*, has entered the fifteenth year of its existence.

THERE were 277 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending the 27th December last, of which 12 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 107 from fevers, 40 from bowel complaints, 15 from pthisis and lung diseases, 20 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Eleven children were still-born and 10 persons died from old age. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 17.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Administration of Bengal for 1878-79. 2. Report on Vaccination in the Province of Bengal for 1878-79. 3. Elements of Arithmetic By Gooru Dass Banerjea, M. A. D. L. 4. A Peep into the Vaidik age or a Brief Survey of Ancient Sanskrit Literature. By Ram Chandra Ghosha 5. Report on the administration of Pudoocottah for 1878-79. 6. Primer on the Preservation of Health, ninth edition. By Jadoonath Mookerjee, L. M. S. 7. Saroda Mungal—a Poem in Bengali. By Behari Lal Chuckerbutty. 8. The Fall of Surfuraj Khan—an historical drama in Bengali. Published by Jogesh Chunder Banerjea. 9. Hindoo Dhurma Tutwa or an Enquiry into the Religion of the Hindoos. By Rakhaldass Mookerjee. 10. Sungit Mala—or a garland of songs. By Rakhal Dass Mookerjee. 11. The Gupta Press Bengali Almanack for B. E. 1287. 21. Oriental Miscellany, January, 1880. 13. Parichariká a Bengali monthly for Pous 1286 B. E.

FOR WANT of space we regret we are obliged to keep back the commercial report for this week.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

*London, December 28th.*—Holding seditious meetings in the Transvaal has been prohibited. It is stated that General Kauffman will command the Russian expedition from Samarkand in the spring, which is to co-operate with the expedition from the Caspian against the Turkomans.

*Obituary.*—William Hepworth Dixon.

*29th.*—The Empress Eugenie will embark for Zululand in February. A frightful accident occurred at the Tay Bridge yesterday. The Bridge had been partially destroyed by a heavy gale, and on the passenger train from Edinburgh to Dundee being over, it was precipitated into the river below. Fears are entertained that 200 passengers have been drowned.

*30th.*—Later particulars respecting the disaster at the Tay Bridge state that nobody in the train was saved. The total number of victims is 90, and not 200 as was at first feared. The gap made in the bridge and into which the train rushed, was 750 yards long. The cause of the accident is uncertain, and an official enquiry has been ordered.

*30th.*—A diver has found one of the carriages in the river Tay from the late accident, but no bodies.

*31st.*—The *Standard* publishes a telegram stating that the Khan of Merv has despatched an Embassy to the British Headquarters in Afghanisthan and that it will proceed thence to the Viceroy.

*31st.*—Naik Mahomed, brother of Shere Ali, with Ulema Hossein Khan, from Kabul arrived at Tashkend on the 23rd November, soliciting Russian hospitality. Abdul Rahman has fled across the frontier.

*1st January.*—The Queen has sent a letter of congratulation to the mother of General Roberts on the occasion of his victorious re-occupation of Kabul. Only part of the train which was precipitated from the Tay Bridge has been found, but no bodies have been recovered yet. A subscription has been opened for the relatives of those who were lost in the accident. Sir Garnet Wolseley will return from the Cape to England this month. The revenue returns for the December quarter amount to £18,625,000, showing a decrease of £468,750, as compared with the same period last year.

*2nd.*—Her Majesty the Queen has ordered Sir Evelyn Wood to accompany the Empress Eugenie to Zululand, in February.

*Teharan, December 27th.*—The Shah, with ten thousand troops, will make a pilgrimage to Meshed in the spring

*Paris, December 28th.*—A new ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Mr Freycinet from members of the advanced Left. Mr Freycinet undertakes the ministry of foreign affairs

*Madrid, December 30th.*—Their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain were fired at to-day at the entrance to the Royal palace here by a Galician waiter named Gonzalez Their Majesties were untouched. The assassin has been arrested

*Constantinople, December 27th.*—Sir A. Layard has threatened to suspend diplomatic relations with the Porte, unless the Mullah who has translated the Bible is released from imprisonment for so doing.

*31st.*—The British Ambassador has suspended official diplomatic relations with the Porte, and has asked Lord Salisbury to instruct him as to his future course of action.

*St. Petersburgh, December 31st.*—The *Golos* is about to reappear again; but as a liberal and more lenient organ than was formerly the case. The Empress of Russia continues to improve from her severe illness, and may be pronounced now as recovering.

*Aden, January 1st.*—The *Surat* with the mails of the 19th December, left for Bombay at 4o'clock this morning. The *Poona* for Galle and Calcutta, at 9 o'clock last night.

*Cape Town, December 28th.*—Large meetings of Boers have been held at which resolutions were adopted to meet on 6th April. Mr. Kruger was appointed President, and instructed to summon a Volksraad The meeting afterwards dispersed quietly. At a dinner given to Sir Garnet Wolseley, he made a speech in which he announces that henceforward the Transvaal would be a Crown colony

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1880.

## RETROSPECT OF 1879.

THE eighth decade of the nineteenth century will remain memorable in history for two gigantic European wars, a terrible armed collision in Africa, a series of armed demonstrations in Asia, and a not insignificant war in America. The decade commenced with the Franko-Prussian war, which ended in the humiliation of France and the extinction of the Napoleanic empire. The latter end of the decade witnessed a gigantic war between Russia and Turkey, resulting in the dismemberment of the latter and the political ascendancy of England in European politics through the sheer force of diplomacy. In Africa the aggressive policy of the British colony culminated in a war with the King of Zululand last year. The Zulus made a bold stand, and inflicted in the first instance a signal defeat upon British arms. Cetewayo, the hero of the Zulu war, shewed a dash and vigour, which challenged admiration. In this war fell the last hope of the Napolean dynasty. The Prince Imperial, a fine young man, full of courage and enthusiasm, by way of some return for the hospitality of England, which had offered him and his Empress mother an asylum, volunteered his services in this war. He was thoughtless enough to advance, whilst his comrades were behind at a distance, and the ruthless Zulus pounced upon him and asseigaed him. Thus was crushed in the bud the dearly cherished hope of the late Louis Napoleon. The news of the disaster, which befell British arms in Zululand, naturally enough filled England with grief and indignation, and called forth her highest energy. As might be expected she retrieved her honor in no time; Cetewayo was vanquished and deported to England. During this decade China put forth her military resources and retook Kashgar. Russia gradually extended her power in Central Asia by a series of armed demonstrations which the native tribes could ill resist. But the Northern Bear received a terrible check at the hands of the Turkomans last year. It was a defeat the like of which the Muscovite had never sustained in his aggressive career in Central Asia. And last though not the least was the war in which England was engaged with Affghansthan. That war commenced in 1878; it came to a close in the middle of the last year; it however revived at about the close of the year. We notice this war under a separate head. In America there was last year a war between the Chillians and the Peruvians, in which the former have got the better of the latter. Thus the blood-hounds of war were active in the four quarters of the globe during this decade and in three continents during the past year.

### INDIA IN ENGLAND.

DURING the last year there were numerous evidences that the bonds between England and India were drawing closer. Never before did the great Political Parties of the United Kingdom make India the subject of battle-cry in the same manner as they did during the past year. Both realized the great political significance of the Indian Dependency of England; both recognized that the sovereign country wielded serious responsibilities in that dependency, and both sought to give expression to their respective ideas of those responsibilities, but these ideas widely differed. The Conservatives have apparently forgotten their old traditions about Indian administration. Some of the most enlightened measures, which have emanated from the British Parliament regarding the administration of India—not the least of which was the gracious Proclamation of the Queen in 1858, justly considered the charter of the political and religious liberties of the princes and people of India,—were due to their counsel, to their advocacy, to their influence. But the times are out of joint. The Conservatives have now become the task-masters of India. They have been infected with the disease of Imperialism, and they do not scruple to stoop to any thing in order to carry out that grand idea. Before that altar they have sacrificed principle, honesty, humanity, and liberality, the generous instincts of the Englishman and the noble feelings of the British statesman. On the other hand the Liberals by their utterances and writings have shewn that the old spirit of the great English nation was not yet dead, that the benevolent impulses which beat in the national heart of England still vibrated, that there were still thinkers and workers, who would not allow the fair fame of the English people tarnished by the foul breath of the imperial *regime*. Some may attribute this difference to party feeling, others may lament that India should become the sport of party politics, but we for one rejoice that whatever the reasons the leaders of the Liberal party have taken India under their wings for shelter and protection, that they have lent their powerful intellects and still more powerful eloquence to the exposition of Indian wrongs and grievances at the bar of the English nation, that they sympathize with the myriad millions of this country and reprobate loudly, openly, and unflinchingly the policy of coercion and repression, which has of late unfortunately become the fashion. If party feeling constitutes the soul of political life in England, if notwithstanding the many disadvantages of Party Government she has flourished the most and ranks among the civilized nations of the world as the home of liberty, far better that India should retain her vitality through the animation of English party politics than that she should die of mere inanition from want of party sympathy. There were numerous Indian subjects, which received prominent attention in England during the past year. The Affghan War, Indian Finance and Taxation, the Cotton Duties, the Indian Army, the Indian Arms Act, the Vernacular Press Act, the Indian Civil Service, the Indian Public Works, the Indian Railways, the Indian Famine, the Indian Canals, the Indian Constitution, and last though not the least the new Imperialism in India, all attracted the notice of the leaders of the nation in the press, on the platform, and in Parliament. In times past Mr. Gladstone took little or no interest in Indian matters; he used to look upon India as a burden upon England, and as it was not possible to cut it off, he spoke little about it. But Party rivalry has prompted him to study the great subject of India, and he has now seen what a grand field is there in this classic land of the ancient Aryans, a parallel of the classic ground of the ancient Hellenes, for the exercise of his philanthropic zeal, his large-hearted humanity, and his generous love of liberty. He has in his old friend John Bright, a noble ally in this good cause. That old man eloquent has a passionate attachment for India. In the days of John Company he valiantly fought the battle of Indian reform, aided by that veteran, the late lamented John Dickinson. After the Sepoy Mutiny he also raised his voice on behalf of the teeming millions of this country with his usual generous warmth, but finding so little response from among his countrymen he maintained unhappily for us silence for some years. But there is always a limit to forbearance. The freaks of power, which the Conservative Government played, and which made angels weep, once more roused the veteran champion of India, and he has poured forth torrents of his indignant eloquence, which we sincerely hope will drown the base currents of Imperialism. There were other friends of India, who if not so influential were not the less earnest and active. Mr. Fawcett, the sightless champion of India, was unceasing in his efforts to ameliorate the condition of the millions of this country. Whether in the press, or on the platform, or in Parliament he was equally active. He obtained a signal victory for the cause of India by obtaining from the Government an unconditional surrender regarding Indian expenditure. The Government unreservedly acknowledged the necessity of retrenchment and promised important and substantial measures of economy. He was ably seconded by other Indian friends, notably by Mr. Laing, Sir George Campbell, Sir George Balfour, and Mr. O'Donnell. The most important issue of constitutional law for India was raised by two most eminent jurists Sir William Harcourt and Mr. James. This was in connection with the power exercised by the Secretary of State and the Governor General in vetoing their Councils. Regarding the Affghan War and the cost of it the Duke of Argyll was the most outspoken, and his utterances naturally received great weight from his own exalted position, his experience as an ex-Indian Minister, and his intimate relation with Her Majesty the Queen. It could not but be most gratifying to the people of India that their late beloved Viceroy, Lord Northbrook, shewed not a little activity in bringing Indian questions before the Upper House of Parliament, of which he is an honored member. He took a

prominent part in the Affghan debates in the House of Lords, and in presenting to the House the petition of the British Indian Association regarding the payment of the cost of the Affghan War, he gave an eloborate and exhaustive review of Indian finance. Last year the report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Indian Public Works was presented and published. Other important questions besides those which we have noted above, were also discussed in Parliament, notably the Silver question, which the Government of India had failed to grasp intelligently and fairly. If the Liberals were forward in agitating the Indian question both in and out of Parliament, the Conservatives were by no means behind-hand. In Parliament not unfrequently they snubbed their opponents by the sheer force of numbers, but they were completely routed in their appeals to the country. At Manchester Lord Salisbury organized a Conservative Campaign which at first promised to be successful, but the forces which he had gathered were scattered to the four winds of heaven when Mr. John Bright entered the field. A new impetus was imparted to the Indian movement by the advent of Mr. Lalmohun Ghose as the Delegate of India, whose great command over the English language, and feeling appeal to the English nation produced quite a sensation among his audience. His words were powerfully backed by Mr. John Bright. His success has led to a counter-movement by Dr. Hunter, who is in the pay of the Government in India, anc who commenced a series of lectures on what England had done for India. Mr. Lal Mohun was no longer in England to answer him, but Mr. Gladstone took up the gauntlet and fired at him with the irresistible artillery of his eloquence. The prospects of India in England during the last year were thus cheering. We only hope that the tide of English sympathy which has flowed in will not dry up after the new elections are over.

### THE WAR.

Those memorable words of Julius Cæsar,—*veni, vedi, veci,*—were never more applicable to a modern campaign than to the first Affghan campaign of Lord Lytton. His generals went, saw and conquered. With the exception of slight opposition here and there there was practically little resistance offered to the progress of British arms into Affghansthan. Fortune favoured our Government. The Affghan country was torn by internal dissensions, the Amir Shere Ali, although a brave and skilful man, was on the two horns of a dilemma, on one side fed by barren hopes of Russian support, and on the other threatened by the English at his very gate, and so he left his capital and throne and died an exile. He was the victim of the ambition and rivalry of two powerful European nations, and no right-thinking man, who had watched his situation and weighed his difficulties, could withhold his sympathy from him. In him died the Affghan hope of coping with British arms. Him succeeded Yakub Khan known as the most valiant man, the most consummate general, and the most acute politician in Affghansthan, but he shewed no inclination to fight. He found the soldiery almost mutinous owing to heavy arrears of pay, the court torn by faction, and the treasury empty, and the best thing he could do was to patch up a peace with the English. So he invited himself into the British camp, and proposed negociations, which resulted in the Treaty of Gundamuck. The results of the first Affghan campaign were thus summed up by the Viceroy in his now celebrated Despatch of August last. "The rapid success of our military operations," writes Lord Lytton, "completely confirmed the calculations on which they had been based. The Amir's standing army was defeated and dispersed beyond all possibility of recovery; yet his Sirdars had not risen to the rescue of his power. His towns opened their gates without remonstrance to our summons; their authorities readily responded to our requirements; and their inhabitants evinced no disposition to forfeit the pecuniary advantages they derived from the presence of our troops. Nor was the neutrality of the independent tribes less satisfactory than the indifference of the Affghan people. From these tribes our convoys and outposts, especially along the Khyber Pass, were exposed to occasional annoyance: but, generally speaking, all the long lines of communication between our advanced positions and their bases in British India were far more facilitated by the friendly co-operation, than impeded by the occasional thefts and assaults, of the tribes along the tracts they traversed. Three years ago no European British subject could approach the Khyber Pass without serious personal danger. But, during the greater part of the recent campaign, telegraphic communication from Peshawar to Jellalabad was maintained along the entire length of this Pass." The political triumph was also complete. The Amir and his people in unmistakeable language acknowledged British supremacy. The foreign relations of His Highness were placed under the absolute control of the British Government; the command of the principal passes between India and Afghanisthan was surrendered to it, together with the administration of three important districts, and the location of a permanent British Resident at Kabul was agreed to with the right to depute British officers as occasion might require to any part of the Affghan frontiers. The Viceroy at this moment of triumph thus wrote to Her Majesty's Government: "The engagements thus concluded, at Gandamak, with the Amir Yakub Khan, represent and attest an important change in the whole condition of Central Asian affairs. The magnitude of this change will be best appreciated when our present position and influence beyond the frontier are compared with what they were during the greater portion of the preceding period between the Umballa Conferences and the recent Afghan War." Again: "Notwithstanding the conditions it imposes, the Treaty of Gundamak, so far as we can judge is regarded with satisfaction by the Amir; to whose possession it restores important tracts of territory which His Highness could not have recovered by the sword and to the peaceful consolidation of whose authority it will, we trust powerfully contribute. The Amir of Kabul has now neither the motive nor the means to incite these tribes to acts of hostility against us. The policy applied during the last three years to the pass tribes of Beluchistan has already effected the complete pacification of even their most turbulent sections: and the Bolan Pass though unguarded by British troops, has been remarkably safe and quiet. These facts justify us in anticipating the most satisfactory results from the judicious and patient application of a similar system to the management of the Khyber and Michni Passes." But little did His Excellency calculate what was secreted in the Affghan bosom. Proud of his success he lost no time in deputing his representative to the court of Kabul, and he selected Major Cavagnari for this delicate and difficult task. A better man could not have been found for the representation of her Britannic Majesty in the capital of Affghansthan. He was a soldier by instinct, he knew well the resources of Affghansthan, understood the language of the people, was on terms of friendship with many Affghan chiefs and Sirdars, dreaded by the populace, and was the principal instrument in bringing about the peace. But we have heard, with what truth we cannot say, that he was not disposed to go to Kabul at that time, that he did not trust Yakub Khan, particularly his surroundings, and that he wanted to test his friendship by waiting till as was proposed Yakub should visit the Viceroy in Calcutta in winter, and then to proceed to Kabul in the ensuing summer. It is said that the Viceroy did not like to lose time, and we all know what was the result of this indecent haste. Within a few weeks of the publication of the Viceroy's triumphal despatch the tragedy of 1841 was repeated In the same quadrangle of horrors, within which Macnaughten and his suite had been hacked to pieces, Sir Louis Cavagnari and his brave band were shot, slain or burnt to death. The Votes of Thanks of Parliament to the Indian Army had scarcely reached their destination, the Honors conferred by Her Majesty had scarcely appeared in the *Gazette*, when the melancholy intelligence of the terrible disaster at Kabul was flashed forth to the whole world. It was only yesterday the Premier had boasted at Lord Mayor's Dinner that the object of the scientific frontier in Affghansthan had been "accomplished and achieved with a precision of plan and a rapidity of execution not easily equalled in the annals of statesmanship and war." And yet within a few days of this self-satisfied acquiescence the whole condition was changed. The curtain, which had fallen upon the second Affghan War, was again up-lifted, and another terrible scene of bloodshed and horrors was opened to view. The victor was vanquished, not in fair fight, not in open battle, but in a brutal assault, in a mob outrage, in a sudden attack at tremendous odds, in a defile of dark treachery and diabolical design. No time was lost in avenging this outrage. Orders were immediately issued for the march of troops under the command of General Roberts, and they occupied Kabul almost unopposed. The city, the fort, and the treasury passed under the control of our General, who was for the time the Dictator of Affghansthan. After quartering his troops he began to enquire into the history of the treachery and to punish the men, who were most implicated in it. Yakub Khan was made a state prisoner. And while all this was going on the Affghans assembled in great numbers at the beginning of December and attacked General Roberts, who in order to save his men, was obliged to abandon Kabul and to entrench himself within the cantonment of Sherpur. This disaster has been rapidly retrieved, and the British flag again waves over the city of Kabul. But it is difficult to foresee the end of this struggle. During the year there was a not insignificant raid made by the Nagas on our North Eastern Frontier, which was promptly but partially suppressed. There has been a petty rising in the Rumpa country in Madras, which strange to say seems to defy our power.

### POLITICAL.

Apart from the Affghan question there were other clouds in the political horizon of India during the past year. We were on the brink of a war with the King of Mandalay. The reigning King died and he was succeeded by one of his sons Theebaw, quite a stripling, without education, and without training to wield the responsibilities of the Crown. He placed himself in the hands of his mother, a domineering and bloodthirsty woman, and some corrupt minions. He signalized the commencement of his reign by acts of barbarity and bloodshed, disgraceful to humanity. Not content with these bloody and cruel acts he gave himself airs in his intercourse with the representatives of the British Government at his court, so much so that our Government resolved to sever diplomatic relations with him. Our Resident was ordered to leave the Mandalay Court. The flight of the Resident, for it was nothing else, in our humble opinion was premature and hasty, for though Theebaw was full of braggadocio he did not we believe seriously mean a collision with our Government. There were rumours of a war between our Government and King Theebaw, and it was believed that if the Government of India had its own way it would have been a *fait accompli*. But the Home Government was opposed to a war with Mandalay; its hands were already full, and it did not want further enterprise. So a war with Mandalay was averted last year. But we hope King Theebaw will learn moderation. His insolent behaviour has justly filled our Government with indignation, and the least spark may ignite the magazine into a flame. Fortunately the minister of Mandalay is a prudent and moderate man; he is fully conscious of the resources of the British Government and of the peril which his King would run by provoking it, and if his advice prevails we have no fear of an armed collision between the two powers. During the year the annexationists raised a cry for the annexation of Kashmir, on the ground that the Government of Kashmir had failed in coping with the famines which ravaged the valley of the roses. The Maharaja did his best, but the calamity was so widespread that he could not successfully meet it. But was he singular? With all its resources, administrative machinery, energy and activity our Government could not absolutely prevent mortality in its own provinces —Madras and Bombay. Our Government had been long in charge of the native state of Mysore; the whole administration of that state was in its hands, and yet it could not successfully grapple with the monster famine,

which stalked over it. Between Madras and Mysore the number of persons, who died from starvation or sickness according to different estimates ranged from three millions to six millions, and yet who ever thought of deposing British authority on that score? But hostile critics of Kashmir did not hesitate to cry for the annexation of that state on precisely the same ground. A running fire was kept on in the columns of the *Times* on the Kasmir State. One correspondent wrote: "In God's name, let us give the money back! Give him more let him have a million in place of the £800,000 paid to us; and so let us purge out the stain upon our policy in this matter." Another cried out: "Talk of Turkish misrule! There exists in a country over which our supremacy is acknowledged a slavery as debased, a tyranny as cruel as that of Africa. It has hitherto been our policy to gloss over these facts, and we have allowed this Hindoo Raja to do as he pleased, provided he remained subservient to our wishes. The true state of Kashmir needs only to be known to awaken in this country indignation against a policy the morality of which has been sacrificed to its expediency. Is it longer expedient?" And so on. Now, what were the facts of the so-called sale of Kashmir by the British Government. Sir Henry Hardinge required the Lahore Durbar, after the conclusion of the first Sikh war in 1846, to make good the expenses of the campaign computed at a crore and a half of rupees. The Durbar could not pay more than half a crore. Golab Sing, the Chief of Jummu, offered to pay the remaining crore of rupees, on condition of being constituted the independent monarch of Kashmir and Jummu. Sir Henry Hardinge accepted this offer. Thereupon Golab Sing, as Marshman points out, "merely received an indefeasible title to that which was already in his possession and which we were not in a position to deprive him of." Was it not a complete perversion of fact as a contemporary justly remarked to talk of a people having been sold? We are glad to say that the cry of annexation has now almost ceased. During the past year there was much agitation about the military forces of the Native Princes. It was urged both here and in England that the Native States ought not to be allowed to maintain "bloated armies," which were a subject of embarrassment to the British Government. We hope the loyal services which the Native Princes rendered by placing their troops at the disposal of our Government for the Malta and Affghan expeditions have satisfied our rulers that it would be sheer ingratitude on their part to quarrel with the native princes about their troops, which are kept more for show and police service than for military purposes. At the latter end of the year His Excellency the Viceroy visited some of the Rajputana States and Gwalior, which tended to strengthen their bond of attachment to the Paramount Power.

### LEGISLATIVE.

The mischievous activity of the Legislative Department arrested attention in the beginning of the year. The rage for codification which had seized Mr. Whitley Stokes caused a general alarm, and it was therefore proposed to confide the work to a Commission. Lord Cranbrook wrote: "I share the opinion which appears to have been entertained by my predecessor, that it is very doubtful whether Parliament intended that the preparation of an Indian Code should be exclusively confided to the Law Member of Council, however great his ability and energy, and the examination of draft laws of that description exclusively entrusted to your Council for making Laws and Regulations, however well that body may be constituted for purposes of current legislation." Again: "I am again strongly opposed to any scheme for compressing the completion of the Civil Code within a period of five years, or any other definite time. Any such attempt will tend to produce haste and consequent imperfection in an undertaking which, before all things, requires deliberate care. The branches of law which remain to be codified are, on the whole, more complex than those which have been already declared in chapters of the Code, and the difficulties of harmonizing them with the feelings and usages of the people, of which, as you justly observe, knowledge is essential to the codifier, will be unusually great." If this was the opinion of Lord Cranbrook, and he was undoubtedly right in what he said, we were not a little surprised that his Lordship sanctioned the appointment of a Law Commission for six months. The Commission consisted of the Law Member, Mr. Chief Justice Turner, and Mr. Raymond West. They held their sittings at Simla, and have submitted their report, which has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for consideration. We give below a summary of their conclusions:

(*a*) That the process of codifying well-marked divisions of our substantive law should continue;

(*b*) that the eventual combination of those divisions as parts of a single and general Code should be borne in mind;

(*c*) that the English law should be made the basis in a great measure of our future Codes, but that its materials should be recast rather than adopted without modification;

(*d*) that in recasting those materials, due regard should be had to Native habits and modes of thought; that the form which those materials should assume should, as far as possible, resemble that of rules already accepted; that, in other words, the propositions of our Codes should be broad, simple and readily intelligible;

(*e*) that uniformity in legislation should be aimed at, but that special and local customs should be treated considerately;

(*f*) that the existing law of persons should not at present be expanded by way of codification, save that the operation of the European British Minors Act, XIII of 1874, should be extended;

(*g*) that the laws relating respectively to negotiable instruments, to the subjects dealt with by the Transfer of Property Bill, to trusts, to alluvion, to easements, and master and servant, should be codified, and the Bills already prepared on these subjects be passed into law, subject to the amendments above suggested;

(*h*) that the Law of Wrongs should then be codified;

(*i*) that, concurrently with or after the framing of a Law of Wrongs, the laws relating to the insurance, carriers and lien should be codified;

(*j*) that the legislature should then deal with the Law of Property in its whole extent;

(*k*) that preparation be made for a systematic chapter on interpretation;

(*l*) that the project of framing a digest of the decisions of Indian Courts should be abandoned.

By far the most important Bill passed by the Vice-regal Legislative Council during the past year was the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Bill. We have written so much on the subject that we need not recapitulate our observations. Suffice it to say that it is in keeping with the imperialistic spirit of modern Indian legislation. It dispenses with the usual safeguards of justice, and from sentimental considerations alone it places the creditor absolutely at the mercy of the debtor. It is observable that the Law Member did not approve of this Bill, but the Executive Members of the Council had every thing in their own way. Another important measure was passed during the year, we mean the Legal Practitioners' Bill. Among the Bills introduced but not passed was the Factory Bill. This Bill is not without reason regarded as the thin end of the wedge to cut away the cotton industry of India. The present Bill is comparatively a mild measure, but we are afraid it is the precursor of something worse. The local Councils were less active during the past year. Sir Ashley Eden is no friend to unnecessary legislation, and under him the Bengal Council has had well-merited repose. In Madras and Bombay there was also some relaxation of legislative activity.

### FINANCIAL.

NEXT to the Affghan war the condition of the finances occupied the attention of the public during the past year. The Budget statement of Sir John Strachey disclosed a sad state of things. Notwithstanding all the flourish made about anticipated surplus it was admitted that the deficit was upon the face of the estimate for the coming year £1,395,000. Excluding the book credit in the Military Funds, the gross deficit of public revenue was (five million one hundred nine thousands) £5,109,000. But as £1,550,000 had to be repaid to the holders of the Five-and-a-half per cent. Loan, and provision to be made for some other repayments, the gross deficiency was £6,700,800, of which, upon the estimates, £1,200,000 were to be provided from the public Balances. Excluding the Fund credits and including provision for the remittance of the whole current requirements of the Home Treasury, the deficit of the past four years amounted to £24,863,000. Another most noteworthy feature of the Budget was the disappearance of the Famine Insurance Fund, notwithstanding heavy famine taxation. The Government of India in its Resolution on the Budget wrote: "The insurance provided against future famines has virtually ceased to exist; and the difficulties in the way of fiscal and commercial and administrative reform have been greatly aggravated. Nor can it be any way assumed that the evil will not continue and go on increasing. Under such circumstances it is extremely difficult to follow any settled financial policy; for the Government cannot even approximately tell what income will be required to meet the necessary expenditure of the State." Could anything be more humiliating than this confession? And yet in the same breath the Government reduced the import duties. The Government of India had repeatedly declared that an annual surplus of £2,000,000 was necessary, in ordinary times to provide the means of protecting, so far as might be possible, the country against famine, and leave a margin such as every solvent State ought to maintain, to meet unforeseen contingencies. But it had abandoned all hope of obtaining such a surplus in the coming year. The sad state of the finances led the Government to enforce rigorous economy. This new born zeal for economy was chiefly due to Parliamentary pressure. The Government appointed a Commission with Sir Ashley Eden at its head for the reduction of military expenditure. The Commission has submitted its report; the recommendations made by it, if carried out, it is believed, will result in a saving of about a million and a quarter per annum. The Government has also effected considerable retrenchments in the Public Works Department. A scheme of retirement for Public Work Officers was announced, under which many officers have taken their discharge. It is however doubted whether this scheme will really lead to substantial saving, for the terms are too liberal and expensive. But no real saving in the Public Works Department will we fear be effected until the perennial flow of officers from Cooper's Hill College be checked. The Government has promised to effect a saving of about a million and a half in the Public Works Department. Measures of economy in other departments were also under consideration. We have given a series of articles on the subject, but it remains to be seen whether the Government will suit its action to its word. It has carried out one suggestion of ours—it has abolished the Agricultural Department. The most scandalous piece of financial operation of the Government during the past year was the remission of cotton duties, resulting in a loss of more than a quarter of a million of revenue annually. This measure was obviously intended as a sop to the Manchester Cerberus. It gave rise to much angry discussion and dissatisfaction. The British Indian Association waited in deputation upon the Viceroy with a closely reasoned but respectfully worded protest against it, but His Excellency gave them an insulting rebuff. The Chamber of Commerce took up the question in connection with the Famine Insurance Fund, and it too was insulted. But the valour with which Mr. Yule, its President, fought the battle, will be always remembered with pride by the non-official European community. The majority of the members of the Supreme Council dissented from the measure, but they were overridden by the Viceroy. And all this was done, as was generally believed, for the sake of the Lancashire vote for the Ministry at the ensuing elections. This was a proof of the exclusive regard paid to the interests of India in the administration of its affairs. The License tax had its trial during the last year. It was weighed in the balance and found wanting. Sir John Strachey was himself obliged to admit the defects of his pet impost. He confessed that "the License-tax has undoubtedly been unpopular, as all direct taxation must be," that "it falls heavily on the poor, but that it affects a very large class which ought to be exempted. The reason for exempting them is that the numbers brought under taxation have been far

larger than was anticipated, and experience shows that it is not politically wise or financially worth while to collect from a great multitude of people fees small as those which are imposed on the smaller incomes by the License-tax. The difficulty of preventing extortion and oppression on the part of the petty officials, entrusted with the duty of collecting the tax, has proved, in some parts of India, serious, and it is impossible to doubt that there has often been reason for the numerous complaints which have been made." The admissions were sufficient. And yet Sir John inveighed against his critics and denied that the License tax was intended as a Famine fund. We have discussed this subject thread-bare, and will not therefore repeat what we have written regarding it. Sir John added: "Although there has not been in any part of India any reason whatever for thinking that the tax has actually led to political discontent, or the smallest apprehension of anything of the kind occurring it is nevertheless politically wise to amend the law." We are surprised that Sir John should have used such language. Surely it was not his object to incite overt acts of rebellion by this tax. He ought to feel thankful that the people of India are so submissive and law-abiding. It affords us much satisfaction to notice that the year closed with better prospects for the Treasury. As the Chamber of Commerce shewed in their protest against the new Trades and Professions Tax Bill the financial position has improved by nearly two crores of rupees. Thus: Saving of loss by exchange 76 lacs; Additional revenue from Opium 77½ lacs; additional revenue from Railways 40 lacs total 193½ lacs; besides which, the receipts from Salt and other branches of public revenue exhibit a satisfactory increase as far as can be ascertained from the latest published accounts. The exchange has also greatly improved. The improvement in the financial position referred to is independent of the savings, which will be effected by the measures of retrenchment, which have been set on foot. And yet Sir John insists upon the continuance of the License tax, though in a modified form.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

Perhaps in no country in the world do the wheels of administration move so easily as in India. Occasionally they may require oiling, but there are few ruts and holes to arrest their progress. The people are peaceful, loyal, and law-abiding, and a word from the district officer, whether with or without the authority of law, is enough to keep them quiet. British India is divided into eight local Governments, Madras, Bombay, Bengal, N. W. P. Punjab, Central Provinces, Assam, and British Burma. All of them are more or less under the same laws, the same forms, the same institutions. Some are, however, more progressive than others. Of the eight provinces Bengal and Bombay are more in advance. The people of Bengal are agricultural, those of Bombay commercial. But they are on the same level with regard to education and intellectual development. Both the provinces prize high English education; both have a large body of natives educated in English; both are strong in the press and representative institutions, and both take the lead in all matters affecting the public weal. Madras is behind-hand in public spirit, though we are not disposed to agree with those, who call it benighted. The Duke of Buckingham is governing Madras wisely and well, though His Grace does not seem to be popular with the official class. He does not also seem to be on the best of terms with the Government of India; he is too independent to say *ditto* to the behests of the latter. But he sympathizes with the people, and always subordinates all matters to the paramount consideration of their welfare. There was not much in the local administration of Madras during the past year, which calls for special remark, except the Rumpa rebellion, which we must confess reflects upon the local Government. In Bombay Sir Richard Temple is working with his usual energy. When he first went to the Western Presidency he did not seem to win much confidence of the people over whom he held sway. He was a stranger among them, and his manner of work did not seem to impress them much. He was considered to be partial to the Parsees. But his three years' rule seems to have brought about a better understanding between him and his subjects. They now see that he is a friend to liberal education, to scientific education, and to agricultural education, with regard to which he has adopted some wisely devised measures. He is also a friend to educated natives, mixes freely with them, and encourages them in the public service. He is a friend to the native press, and has studiously avoided to enforce the Vernacular Press Act in his Presidency. Fond of locomotion he has travelled far and wide, and there is not perhaps a corner in the Bombay Presidency, which he has not seen with his own eyes. He has done more. He has helped the Government of India in the transport arrangements for the Affghan expedition, and in connection with them has visited some of the outlying parts of Affghansthan. We now turn to our own province. Sir Ashley Eden's greatest merit is his frankness, his outspokenness: he carries his heart upon his sleeve, but in this world of dissimulation outspokenness is not always appreciated, and we are not therefore surprised that it has made him enemies in some quarters. But even his enemies cannot deny that Sir Ashley is possessed of some of the highest qualities of an administrator. Sagacious, honest, firm, manly, and honorable the officials fear him, the non-officials honor him. He knows too much of the province to be humbugged or misled. Perhaps he knows more of the people than they themselves, and his knowledge is an embarassment to those, who may seek to throw dust into his eyes. Although a civilian he does not spare his civilian brethren in the discharge of their official work. Perhaps the Bengal officials had never before stood in greater dread of Belvedere than now, except in the days of Sir John Peter Grant and Sir George Campbell. Sir John was a model Governor, but Sir George was simply hated. This cannot however be said of Sir Ashley Eden. If he is feared, he is also loved. In the discharge of his public duties he looks solely to the interests of the people. He is a reformer, but he is not a blustering reformer. He has done much to improve the position and prospects of the Uncovenanted Service, to encourage the employment of natives, to utilize the services of non-official gentlemen in the interests of the state, to promote practical education, and to foster independent opinion, but he does not herald his reforms or measures with the beat of drum. He has a passion for the improvement of communications by opening railways, roads and canals, and he had matured several schemes, which however remain unfulfilled for want of funds. He is jealous of the liberty of the subject and keeps a sharp eye upon the administration of law. We have no doubt that he will be better understood as the results of his quiet but vigorous and common sense administration will become better known. Sir George Couper, the Lieutenant Governor of the N. W. P., shewed no signs of improvement during the past year. He was as exclusive, as unsympathetic and as narrow-minded as ever. Sir Robert Egerton, the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab, is doing well. He seems to govern well, though he is far from liberal. The Central Provinces are an anomaly, and the sooner they are redistributed among the adjacent provinces the better. Mr. Morris has returned to the province. Sir Steuart Bayley in Assam is doing his work fairly enough. He acted for three months as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal during the temporary absence of Sir Ashley Eden, and we must do him the justice to say that he did well. There was not a single question on which his decision was found to be opposed to public opinion. Mr. Aitchison is the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah. He is far away, and his work does not always come under the notice of the metropolitan public. But he is an able and good man. Unfortunately his views regarding foreign politics are not much in accord with those of the present Government of India, and so he does not stand high in its estimation. But he is doing his work intelligently, honestly, and thoroughly. The high tone of his character has had a wholesome influence upon the different departments of the local administration. The competition-wallahs, at whose head he stands, may well be proud of him.



### GENERAL.

Under this head we propose to glance at the general progress of the country during the past year. When the year began the commercial prospects of the land were gloomy, but they have gradually revived. The famine has disappeared, the harvests have been generally good. Excessive floods caused the destruction of the *aus* crop in some parts of Eastern Bengal and in Nuddea, but the seasonable fall of rain completely changed the aspect in Eastern Bengal. At one time a loud cry of distress was raised partly by self-seeking men, but temporary relief here and there was needed and accorded. In Nuddea the floods were very heavy and the damage to the *aus* crop excessive. But taken as a whole the harvests have been generally good. The material prosperity of the country received some check by the suspension of public works, but we hope money will be found for those large works, the object of which is the furtherance of the inter-provincial trade. Education is progressing apace, and in all the provinces there is a generous rivalry for mass education. Good text-books seem to be however a desideratum. In Bengal there is sufficient literary enterprize to admit of a supply without the high pressure of Government bonuses, but private considerations we fear are too often allowed to neutralize the efforts of good and meritorious authors. It is true that there is a Text-book Committee, who make impartial selections of books, but their introduction depends upon school-inspectors and teachers; the man, who can make the most interest with them, generally carries the day. During the past year a new stimulus was offered to Sanskrit learning by the establishment of Sanskrit title examination, and the award of medals and scholarships founded by some of our public-spirited countrymen and women. The first examination was held in May last. The cause of female education is steadily advancing. Special arrangements have been made for their matriculation and graduation. The University authorities have prescribed a separate course for female candidates for University honors. We hope with this will come suitable arrangements for the instruction of women in the medical science. In Madras several East Indian women have taken medical degrees. A general diffusion of knowledge seems to be the distinguishing characteristic of the age. Schools, debating clubs, newspapers, pamphlets, books, and libraries are multiplying fast; the light of knowledge is invading the darkest recesses of the Mofussil. There is an amount of intellectual and moral activity going on, which cannot but be cheering to the philosopher as well as to the philanthropist. The last year made its quota of gifts in this direction. It is observable that this activity is not confined to the Hindus. Our Mahomedan countrymen are also now catching the blessed contagion, and shewing considerable intellectual activity. The Eurasians received special attention during the past year. The question of the education of the children of poor Europeans and Eurasians received a large share of the attention of Government. Proposals have been made for their employment in the ranks of the Army, and if they had only the backbone of the European, they would have long ere this superseded the latter. Notwithstanding the repressive Press Act the Vernacular Press increased in numbers during the past year. It is much to be regretted that the Government thought fit to direct that engine of repression against the oldest and best Vernacular newspaper, the *Shomeprokash*. The pretext was certainly plausible; the letter for which it was impeached, should not certainly have been allowed a space in the columns of that paper, but practically it had done no harm, and a powerful Government could have well overlooked it. The violent death of the *Shomeprokash* was a serious blow to the cause of Vernacular journalism in Bengal. An equally well conducted paper has however sprung up on its ashes, we mean the *Nobobibhakur*. Although the terrors of imperialism increased during the year, we are glad to note that our political prospects have not suffered by it. On the contrary the high-handed proceedings of the imperialists have secured us warm and generous sympathy in England. Our political Associations have worked with redoubled activity. The Britis[illegible]

Indian Association was as active as ever, and the Indian Association shewed much youthful vigour. The Mahomedans have got their National Association, which also shewed fair activity. In Bombay the Puna Sarvajanik Sabha takes the lead, the Bombay Association has also been resuscitated. In the Punjab the Anjumani meets frequently and discusses public questions under the leadership of Dr. Leitner. In Behar and East Bengal Landholders' Associations have been established. In several parts of the North Western Provinces and Bengal People's Associations have been founded. There is thus everywhere a revival of political life and aspirations, which is full of promise. It shews that the Indians are shaking off their old lethargy. And what is of far greater importance is the bond of union, which is fast welding the various nationalities of India into a harmonious whole. The same impulse of patriotism and nationality is beating within the veins of the people of the different provinces of India. During the past year a well sustained agitation was kept up for the admission of educated natives into the Covenanted Civil Service. It has so far succeeded that it has compelled the Government to throw open the doors of the service, though now only partially. The Government is constrained to admit that the pledge of the Crown and Parliament in this respect has not been fulfilled, and though the scheme it has adopted for the redemption of the pledge is very very small, inadequate, and unworthy of its high character, still its announcement is a great fact. The present concession as we have said over and over again is a sham, but our countrymen may rest assured that as years will roll by, its basis and scope are sure to be enlarged. The Govern nent cannot Canute-like command the sea of progress to roll back. During the past year the Government dealt a severe blow to the religious and domestic sentiments of the Hindu community by cutting down the Durga Puja holidays from 12 to 4 days. There was no question of imperial policy involved in the matter, and yet with one stroke of the pen it cut down the holidays. It is strange that a statesman of such fine and rich fancy as Lord Lytton did not perceive that commerce was not every thing in this world, and that the finer feelings of man deserved consideration. We do hope that his Lordship will reconsider this question of national importance. Of religion we need only say that there was an ample crop of differences, without however much damage to the main principle.

### CALCUTTA.

Notwithstanding the increasing neglect of the Capital by the Supreme Government, Calcutta flourishes as the Queen of Asiatic cities. Her commerce is improving, her wealth is increasing, her importance as the centre of intelligence, intellectual and political activity, and social progress is rising. It has now five daily papers, two of which are conducted by natives, nine weeklies, and a host of vernacular papers. Every section of the large and varied metropolitan community has its organs in the press. It has five political Associations, three social science Associations and a score of literary and scientific Associations. The first Indian Association for the cultivation of science has its abode in Calcutta, and it is pursuing its labours with persevering zeal. Scarcely a day passes when the educated youths of the city have not some place of congregation for intellectual exercise and rational amusement. It has several periodicals both Vernacular and English, catering to the literary tastes of the local public. The Indian drama is now strongly established in Calcutta. It has a fine race course, and thanks to Sir Richard Temple it has obtained a splendid place for recreation, amusement, and instruction in the Zoological Gardens of Alipore. Some of the finest specimens of the sculptor's art adorn the esplanade of Calcutta erected in honor of some of the most eminent statesmen and bravest soldiers of India. The Town Hall of Calcutta, which may not inaptly be called a Valhalla, exhibits some of the best representations on hec anvas, portraits of philanthropists, public men, statesmen, and heroes. The topographical aspect of Calcutta, thanks to the combined efforts of the Port and Town Commissioners, has of late completely changed. The Strand Bank has been reclaimed; it has added a new lung to the city, while the wharves, jetties and other improvements made have been a source of great convenience to the commerce of Calcutta. The improvements made by the Town Commissioners have been also various and marked. Gas, water supply, drainage, and daily conservancy attest the city improvements wherever one casts his eyes upon. The important experiment of representative city Government was renewed last year, the first term of three years, to which the first trial was limited, having expired in October last. This experiment, notwithstanding many adverse influences at work against it, has proved successful. It had started under certain drawbacks, which have now been removed. The debts and deficits of the first ten years, due to causes which we need not repeat, have been extinguished, and the Municipality is again solvent. The burden of taxation has been lightened, while considerable advance has been made in substantial improvement. The credit of this success is due to both the Commissioners and their present Chairman, Mr. W. M. Souttar, whose strong common sense, conciliatory spirit, moderation, and love of fair play have justly won him the respect of his colleagues. During the past year a scheme of city tramways to be worked by a body of private capitalists was matured, and a Bill was introduced into the local Council to confer upon the corporation and the grantees necessary legal powers. This system of tramways will be worked by horses as in Bombay, but mechanical power may also be had recourse to. At present eight lines will be laid down within the city, but if the scheme should succeed, it might be extended to the suburbs. At the close of the year Calcutta narrowly escaped the reproach of a dastardly attempt made upon the life of the Viceroy by an Eurasian ruffian, name Dessa, said to be a mad man. Merciful Providence happily shielded the person of His Excellency.

### OBITUARY.

Death was busy among the high and gifted during the past year. Of course we are concerned with those, who were connected with India. And foremost among them was Lord Lawrence, late Governor General of India. He was entirely identified with India and his death is a great loss to India. Trained in India, reared up in India, developed in India, and raised to the peerage for the sake of India, he could not consistently forget India, and we must do his memory the justice to say that to the last he advocated the cause of India. He took a prominent part in the Affghan discussions, and if his advice had been followed, India would not have paid so dearly for the sake of acquiring ascendancy in Affghansthan. His last words in Parliament were a protest against the remission of the cotton duties in the interests of Lancashire. In India some of our foremost men were carried off during the past year. The Maharaja of Vizianagram, noted for his charity, urbanity and public spirit, Raja Degumber Mitter, President of the British Indian Association, the foremost man among the educated natives of Bengal, who rose from the ranks but shone the highest by the lustre of his own talents and exertions, Romanath Kaviraj, another self-made man, who devoted his skill, knowledge and means to the relief of suffering humanity, and whose self-denial passed almost into a proverb, the Maharaja of Burdwan, the premier zemindar of Bengal, and last though not the least Newab Ameer Ali Khan Bahadur, the leading Mahomedan citizen of Calcutta, who was a connecting link between the governing class and his co-religionists—all these paid the debt of nature during the past year. Their places cannot be easily filled up.

### CONCLUSION.

WE have endeavoured to take a brief and hurried retrospect of 1879. It was a year of disaster, disappointment, and sorrow. The New Year we are happy to say begins under better auspices. As Lord Lytton said at the New Year's Dinner at Government House it begins with the Affghan War practically ended, with bumper crops with commerce reviving and with the treasury flourishing. May it be our privilege and pleasure at the end of the New Year to record the fulfilment of the hopes and expectations it brings in, the exhibition of the panorama in full brightness, of which we now see only a faint outline, the consummation of those wishes and the consecration of those ends, to which we now venture to accord a place in our heaving heart. In the meantime we wish our readers, constituents, friends and well-wishers a HAPPY HAPPY NEW YEAR and many many returns of the same.!

## THE DEBATE ON THE NEW LICENSE TAX BILL.

THE official report of the debate on the new License Tax Bill in the Governor General's Council is published in last Saturday's *Gazette of India*. It does no credit to our morning papers that they could not give even a fair summary of the debate, and that we should have had to wait for ten days for a full report from the official source. We have had barely time to glance at the debate, and must therefore reserve till a future issue our comments on the several important questions of principle raised in Sir John Strachey's opening speech. Sir John it would seem had taken much umbrage that "the measure has been attacked as an unnecessary and unjustifiable attempt to reimpose, under another name, a hateful impost which was deliberately abandoned by the Government only six years ago." In his usual defiant tone he said, "I fear that upon those who do not scruple to attribute to the Government of India deliberate and habitual dishonesty in all its dealings, words would be wasted in the attempt to prove that we have not been dishonest in this or any other particular instance." Immediately below he, however, confessed, that the schedule to the new Bill had been so arranged as to take the form of an Income tax. He said: "The result was a schedule according to which the taxation on the trading and professional classes would undoubtedly have been assessed under a system nearly approaching the assessment of a percentage on the estimated annual amount of their earnings. In other words, the assessment would have been very like that of an income tax; and I quite admit that this was hardly consistent with some of my own remarks, or with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, which said that 'the system of classification now in force is generally retained.'" And yet Sir John did not hesitate to condemn those, who had the temerity to call the new tax after its true name —to call a spade a spade. But let that pass. The proposals made by Sir John Strachey were very important. He proposed to exempt incomes below Rs. 500, thus giving relief to about a million and a quarter of tax-payers; a concession of the greatest practical importance, for which we cannot feel too grateful to him, to lower the maximum of taxation to Rs. 800, and to retain to all intents and purposes the character of the License Tax. He went further and said, "it is not proposed to ask the Council to pass this measure, nor even to ask the Select Committee finally to report upon it, until the Financial Statement for next year is before the Council and the public." He referred to the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce and to the impression that owing to the improved state of the finances "the Government could now afford to dispense with the License tax altogether." He added: "I cannot now discuss that position, but the hope with which the memorial of the Chamber concludes has been met by the announcement which I have already made that the final consideration of this Bill will be postponed until after the publication of the Financial Statement." Such being the case it was premature to refer the Bill to the Select Committee, particularly as the modifications proposed had completely altered its character. No wonder that an acute lawyer like the Advocate General should see serious legal objections to the proposed course. Mr. Paul said, "leave had been given to introduce this Bill, and consequently the Council were on this occasion unable to give their assent to the referring of another and an entirely different Bill. But if a fresh Bill should now be brought forward on the lines which had been indicated by Sir John Strachey, MR. PAUL would then have this objection to raise, that as it appeared on the surface of the plan that had been sketched out before the Council

that the necessity for the proposed measure depended upon the publication of a Budget-statement the introduction of such fresh Bill must of necessity be postponed till after the publication of the Budget." Mr. Kennedy supported Mr. Paul. He said: "He did not know whether he was right, but as far as he could understand the expressions used by the Financial Member, the new Bill was to be based on an entirely different principle, leaving outstanding three, or perhaps four, separate financial measures, which were to be how he knew not, in what particular form he knew not, what was to be their independent effect he knew not, but he understood they were to be in some way brought in and incorporated with this measure." Mr. Morgan, the commercial member, remarked that "there was practically no measure before the Council, and there was no Bill to refer to a Select Committee." Maharajah Joteendra Mohun Tagore attacked the Bill on the ground that no case had been made out for it, and that the alterations proposed destroyed the identity of the measure. His remarks were both apposite and just. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor took a bold stand and vindicated his character for independence. It is sometimes said that he is too ready to follow the bid of Sir John Strachey, but the remarks which he made shewed Sir Ashley Eden in his true character—bold, manly, and independent. He said: "He believed that there was not a single member present who did not condemn the Bill which the Council was now asked to refer to a Select Committee, and no one had condemned it more than the hon'ble Mover himself; and therefore it seemed to him that the Council would be stultifying itself if they accepted the motion, as it amounted to this, that they were asked to refer a Bill to a Select Committee which was not the Bill which the Committee would be asked to consider." His Honor then went on:

The Council was not asked to accept either of those three courses, which were the only courses really open to it, but to accept a Bill of which they had no knowledge and to refer to a Select Committee a measure which they had no opportunity of considering. His Honour could see no reason why his hon'ble friend should not do what the learned Advocate General had suggested that he should do, namely to withdraw the present Bill and to introduce another Bill which should really set out the policy and principles which the Government desired to follow. Either the Government had determined that the License-tax should become a permanent part of the fiscal system of the country under all circumstances and without reference to the condition of the finances, or it had not, but had resolved to leave the question to be settled on the publication of the annual estimates. He understood from the remarks of hon'ble members who seemed to be informed of the intentions of the Government, that it had been finally determined to make the License-tax a permanent tax, and if that were so, he thought that the proper course for the Government to pursue was to withdraw the present Bill which they had avowed themselves unable to support, and lay before the Council a Bill which should represent the real policy of the Government. It was better to say at once what was intended, and there could be no possible object under such circumstances in waiting for the Budget. There would be nothing gained by delay, if the tax was really to be imposed without reference to the state of the finances which the Budget-statement might disclose. The Council should certainly, under no circumstances, be asked to refer to a Select Committee a Bill which it was admitted they were not really to adopt.

But the arguments of the Opposition availed little. The Executive Members of the Council and their satellites, the paid Additional Members voted to a man in favour of Sir John Strachey's motion. Perhaps the schooling, which the Viceroy had given to his colleagues in the cabinet *in re* the remission of the cotton duties, had not been forgotten, for the effects of the discipline seemed to be marvellous. Even Mr. Whitley Stokes, between whom and some of his colleagues much love we fear is not lost, voted for the motion, though he did not open his lips. The Viceroy found himself in an embarassing situation. His Excellency said, "since he had had the honour of presiding over this Council, he did not remember an instance in which a Bill had encountered on its way to Committee any serious opposition not indicated at the time of its introduction." But His Excellency had evidently forgotten that the Bill had been introduced at Simla, when the oppositionists were not present, and had therefore no opportunity of stating their objections. Besides, the course proposed by the Financial Member was unusual. He had submitted a Bill at Simla, which was as different from the one he sketched out at Calcutta as chalk from cheese. The force of public opinion had been too much for him, and so he had drawn in his horns. He certainly deserves credit for his recantations and concessions, but to be consistent he should have waited till the publication of the Budget-statement and introduced a new Bill on the lines indicated by him. His Excellency continued: "The present motion, however, had been opposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Paul on the ground, as His Excellency understood it, that there was practically nothing to refer to the Committee, because the Bill on which leave was asked to go into Committee had been altered out of existence by the statements with which his hon'ble friend Sir John Strachey had accompanied his motion. His Excellency was unable to understand how it was possible that any Bill before this Council could be altered in its progress through Council by process of announcement. That was a procedure unknown to His Excellency." Surely we did not expect such a statement from His Excellency the Viceroy. None could be better aware than His Excellency of the constitutional forms of legislation; a Bill is committed to a Select Committee when its principle is admitted and its outline generally approved. But according to Sir John Strachey's own statements the whole question involved in his measure was left open. The necessity of the Bill as a fiscal measure would be argued out on the submission of the budget. Its leading features as to incidence of taxation and procedure for assessment were to be materially altered. And yet this "Faulty Bill," which was neither fish nor fowl nor good red herring, was to be referred to a Select Committee. Could anything be more opposed to the rules of the Council and to ordinary common sense than this? And yet His Excellency argued that the course proposed by Sir John Strachey was both consistent and constitutional. He even used a threat. He said: "Hon'ble Members could reject this Bill by refusing leave to refer it to a Select Committee, but the Government would certainly oppose any motion made with that object." We are sorry that His Excellency should have made such a remark. It was not worthy of his high position. Was it for this threat that the paid official members of the Council voted for the motion like so many innocent sheep? May we ask what is the use of the farce of a Council when its President is so peremptory and wishes that the decrees of the "Government" alone should be registered? Altogether the moral of this debate is not creditable to Government. The Advocate General deserves the thanks of the public for taking the lead in this vindication of law and form.

## LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE DOG AND CAT SHOW at the Zoo commences to-morrow.

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WE ARE glad to learn that Pundit Ishwara Chandra Vidyasagra has founded in the Metropolitan Institution two scholarships of Rs. 30 each on the following conditions:

(1.) That the pupils shall appear at the B.A. Examination from the Metropolitan Institution.

(2.) That they shall pass the B.A. Examination in the First Division.

(3.) That they shall compete for the next M.A. Examination.

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IT AFFORDS us great pleasure to be able to state that the Calcutta Municipality has closed the year with a substantial balance of nearly half a lakh of rupees, after paying off the whole of the debts and deficits of the preceding two years and the current expenses of the past year.

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WE UNDERSTAND that the Hon'ble Mohini Mohun Roy has been added to the Rent Commission. He will bring considerable legal and practical knowledge to bear onthe deliberations of the Commission.

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IT IS reported that Sir Edwin Johnson, Military Member of the Governor General's Council, succeeds Sir Neville Chamberlain as Commander-in-Chief of Madras. We, however, hear on good authority that Sir Edwin has declined the offer. If the local commands be abolished, as recommended by the Army Commission, there will be no neceseity for the appointment of a successor to Sir Neville Chamberlain.

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THE MAHARAJAH of Hutwa's ball on Friday last was a grand success. The Town Hall was converted into a fairy land. It was tastefully decorated and beautifully illuminated. The scenic effect was grand and pleasing. About twelve hundred invitation cards were issued, and the Hall was largely crowded. All Calcutta and his wife were there. There was a sprinkling of native gentlemen. The ball was opened by His Excellency the Viceroy and kept up with great spirit. The cordial thanks of the Calcutta community are due to the Maharaja for his kind courtesy and hospitality. Since the Maharaja of Puttiala's ball about five years ago, there had been no ball at the Town Hall of Calcutta so well arranged and so successful as this.

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WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following *Gazette of India Extraordinary* issued on New Year's Day:

Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been pleased to appoint the under-mentioned persons, who by their services have merited the Royal favour, to be Companions of The Order of The Indian Empire:—

1. Sirdar Atar Singh, of Bahadaur, Punjab.
2. Burnell, Arthur Coke, Esq., Ph. D. Madras Civil Service, District and Sessions Judge of Tanjore, Fellow of the Madras University.
3. Cornish, Surgeon-Major William Robert, F.R.C.S., Indian Medical Department, Sanitary Commissioner, Madras.
4. Cunliffe-Owen, Sir Philip, K.C.M.G., C.B., Director of the South Kensington Museum.
5. Daly, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry D., K.C.B., Agent to the Governor General in Central India.
6. Pandit Ishwara Chandra Vidya Sagara, Bengal.
7. Lafont, The Reverend Father Eugene, S.J., late Rector of St. Xavier's College, Calcutta.
8. Luke, Stephen Paget Walter Vyvyan, Esq., Officiating Superintendent of Telegraphs, in charge of Telegraphs with the Khybar Field Force.
9. Lyall, Charles James, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Under Secretrary to the Government of India, in the Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department.
10. Macpherson, Charles Garden Wooland, Esq., Bombay Civil Service, Officiating Secretary to the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.
11. Mir Humayun Jah Bahadur, The Hon'ble, Additional Member of the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Madras for making Laws and Regulations.
12. Nanquette, Monsieur de, Director of Forest Schools at Nancy, France.
13. Ormiston, Thomas, Esq., M.I.C E., Consulting Engineer to the Bombay Port Trust.
14. Pitman, Charles Edward, Esq., Officiating Superintendent of Telegraphs, in charge of Telegraphs with the Kandahar Field Force.
15. Roberts, Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Sleigh, K.C.B., V.C., Commanding the Kabul Field Force.
16. Pandit Surup Narain, Political Assistant, and Deputy Bheel Agent, Manpur, Central India.
17. Kazi Shahab-ud-din, Head of the Revenue Department of the Baroda State.
18. Sibley, George, Esq., C.E., late Chief Engineer of the East Indian Railway.
19. Babu Sourindro Mohun Tagore, Doctor of Music, President Bengal Musical School.
20. Thomas, Ronald Ferguson, Esq., F.R.G.S., Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Teheran, Persia.

Most of the names are good. Those of Bengal are unexceptionable. Father Lafont, Pundit Ishwara Chundra Vidyasagara, and Dr. Shourindra Mohun Tagore are representative men, each representing a distinct department of science. By honoring these gentlemen the Government has done honor to the whole community. The Very Revd. Father Lafont as a Jesuit Father may not care for the honor, but we feel a peculiar pleasure in seeing honor done to one, who is not only a devoted student of science, but a zealous diffusor of science in India. Pundit Ishwara Chundra Vidyasagara should have been honored long ere this. His services to the cause of education, literature, female improvement, and humanity are too well known to require recapitulation. As regards Dr. Shourindro Mohun Tagore honors have been showered upon him by Foreign States, and our Government has simply done an act of justice to itself by including his name in the list of C. I. E's. We hope this tardy recognition of his services by our Government is a precursor of higher honors.

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THE MAGISTRATE of Benares is distinguishing himself by suppressing freedom of speech. Even the *Pioneer* says: "It is to be hoped, that the Local Government will call for an explanation from Mr. Wall, the Collector of Benares, of the singularly indiscreet course he adopted in prohibiting the Swami Dayanand Saraswati from delivering the speech which he wished to make

the other day, on Vedantic theology. Mr. Wall can hardly pretend that his district is so out of hand that Hindu metaphysicians must not be allowed to discuss their views of primitive Aryan philosophy for fear of a disturbance, that he, the British Magistrate, would be powerless to deal with. The mere idea is childish; and to guard against native misconceptions that would be most deplorable, the local Government should see at once that Benares is no longer discredited by the maintenance of restrictions unworthy of the broad liberality of the British *regime*." The good name of our Government thus suffers through the indiscreet zeal and high-handed proceedings of district officers.

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WE ARE requested to mention that subscriptions for the Institute founded by Lord Northbrook and Sir Arthur Hobhouse for the accomodation of Indian youths proceeding to England for education will be received by Mr. O' Kinealy, the Legal Remembrancer, either at his residence, Elysium Row, or at his office, High Court. We have already published the Rules of the Institute, and need hardly repeat that it deserves the support of all patriotic and liberal native gentlemen. The fact that Lord Northbrook is at the head of the movement is a sufficient guarantee of the consideration and wisdom with which it is likely to be conducted. Can't the wealthy zemindars of Behar divert some portion of their spare cash to this useful and national object?

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MR. H. E. FALK, President of the Salt Chamber of Commerce of Cheshire and Worcestershire is on a visit to India. He has been making close enquiries about the working of the salt duties. We are glad to learn that he has very sound views on the subject of the Indian Salt tax. He is not given to that sickly sentimentality, which sees horrors in the salt tax, and does not think that it at all affects the interests of Cheshire manufacturers. A diffusion of practical ideas in England about the Indian Salt tax by practical men like Mr. Falk is sure to do much good.

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THERE WAS the usual State Dinner on the evening of New Year's Day at Government House. This is an institution introduced by Lord Lytton in conformity with the practice followed on the continent. The principal dignitaries of the State were invited on the occasion. His Excellency the Viceroy entertained the company with an eloquent post-prandial speech reviewing the military policy in Affghansthan. We regret we cannot make room for it *in extenso*, but we will give a few extracts. His Excellency thus defended the policy of the campaign:

Gentlemen, the great difficulty presented by the invasion of a poor and barbarous country is to strike the mean between two dangers: the danger of defeat from insufficient force, and the danger of starvation from superfluous numbery. History has repeatedly proved in many places, and victory has recently illustrated at Cabul, the power of a small but well equipped and disciplined force, to hold its own against, and eventually defeat, immensely superior numbers of irregular troops. But the most magnificent army is reduced to impuissance and exposed to serious disaster whenever its requirements are so large as to render its food-supply precarious.

Gentlemen, the Government of India has been charged with want of foresight in not doubling the strength of the force under General Roberts. Want of foresight! Why' good heavens, we should have wanted even sight, had we done anything so unwise. On behalf of this Government I affirm, without hesitation, that any such error on our part would not only have quadrupled all the difficulties and delays in reaching Cabul, but also have left the position of the force there now, exposed to perils, infinitely greater than those which General Roberts has so victoriously disposed of. That prudent, though enterprising, officer could not then have succeeded, as he *has* now succeeded, since he entered Cabul last October, in collecting mainly from the country itself supplies sufficient to place his entire force beyond all risk of danger, or even inconvenience from the want of them. The difficulty and importance of such a feat are not likely to be appreciated by ordinary critics; but from those who have had personal experience in the administration of any army under such conditions, I have heard but one opinion of it: and in their opinion the military capacity of General Roberts has been marked by this single unostentatious achievement more unmistakably even than by his victories in the field.

In conclusion His Excellency remarked:

The old year's task of retribution, thank God, is over; and, in Afghanistan, our new year's task will be, I trust, mainly one of re-assurances and re-conciliation.

God speed!

# REVIEW.

*A Primer on Preservation of Health adapted specially for Natives of India. By Jadunatha Mookerji L. M. S.*

*An English Translation of the above by the same author.*

SARIR PALAN, such is the name of the Bengali text, was we understand written by our author about eleven years ago at the suggestion of Babu Bhudev Mookerjea, and first introduced into the patshallas under the latter. It was subsequently on the recommendation of the Inspectors of the Presidency and Western circles included by the Director of Public Instruction in the Lower Vernacular and Primary or Patshalla scholarship courses. Its success has been so great that it has been translated into Hindi under authority of Government for use in the Vernacular schools of Behar. Emboldened by this success the author has ventured upon an English translation of the treatise. The author in his advertizement says:

The treatise embodies not only the results of the scientific experiments of the highest medical authorities on the points touched upon in it, but it applies those results to the conditions which I have personally ascertained from professional experience during many years in the internal economy of native life in Bengal, which is very much alike in all parts of India. Having carefully noted the chief causes, from which the generally prevailing diseases in India, principally originate; I have endeavoured to suggest the most practical means for removing or neutralising those causes; and though I cannot presume to imply that I have succeeded in producing a complete sanitary code, I may venture to claim the merit at least, of pointing out for the first time exactly where the defects lie.

The table of contents shews the character of the work. Thus chapter I treats of bathing, chapter II of food, chapter III of drink, chapter IV of rest and sleep, chapter V of exercise, chapter VI of clothing, chapter VII of seasons of sickness, chapter VIII of snake-bites, chapter IX bites of rabid animals, chapter X of general rules to be observed daily for the preservation of health, and chapter XI contains a few useful and practical hints. The writer has not simply followed the beaten track, while giving the opinions and views of eminent medical authorities on hygiene, he has used his own eyes, and made suggestions suitable to the habits and circumstances of the people of this country. It is a useful compendium prepared with much care. We are surprised to hear that it is now proposed to supersede this book by Dr. Cunningham's Sanitary Primer. We have not been favoured with a copy of the latter and cannot therefore say any thing about its merits. We are, however, told that it is better adapted for advanced students than for students of the primary class. It would be a gross jobbery if Babu Judunath's book, which has been in use in our schools for eleven years be superseded, simply because he cannot claim the official influence of Dr. Cunningham.

**Darlington's Pain-Curer** has been found to be a certain cure for Pain on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Deafness of the ear, Neuralgia Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah-street, Calcutta.

# KABUL NEWS.

*(From the Press Commissioner).*

*Kabul 24th December.*—Our success yesterday was more complete, and the enemy's loss more severe, than I was aware of when I despatched my telegram last evening. The Kohistanis and Logaris, also people living near Kabul, went straight to their homes after being defeated. The remainder went to the city for a few hours, but during the night they all fled. Moolla Muski Alam, and General Mahomed Jan, the two leaders, went off early. The Bala Hissar and city will be taken possession of this afternoon, and the former will be occupied, if I can be satisfied that there is no danger to the troops from gunpowder. Our losses yesterday were great (*sic*), five killed including the two Royal Engineer Officers accidentally blown up, and 33 wounded, including Lieutenant Gambier, 5th Panjab cavalry, severely, and Lieutenant Burn Murdoch, R. E., slightly. Her Majesty's gracious message has been received and published to the troops, who are much gratified. The majority of the wounded are doing well. General Charles Gough's brigade arrived this morning. Slight snow last night.

*20th.*—General Roberts telegraphs on the 21st, (received on the 28th, night,) that Lieut. Montanaro had died of his wound. Total casualties up to the night of the 20th, 77 killed including 3 Officers and one follower, 220 wounded, including 15 Officers and 4 followers and 2 missing. Two officers and ten men have since died of their wounds. The Native troops have 4 per cent. sick, and including wounded between 5 and 6 per cent. General Roberts telegraphs on the 25th. "A heavy fall of snow yesterday prevented the cavalry continuing the pursuit of the enemy; all, however, cleared off, leaving a number of their dead around Sherpur. The city is occupied by our troops. The powder magazine has been emptied. Before quartering troops in the Bala Hissar, I am having it carefully examined, in case any mines may have been prepared. Explosions were of constant occurence in and around the city during the last ten days. In one a hundred of the enemy were killed. Sir Michael Kennedy and all his party will start in a few days for India. Every exertion is being made to re-establish communications. The telegraph line between this and Gandamak has been greatly destroyed." General Roberts, dated Kabul, 29th December reports that "Bhutkak has been re-occupied today and a commencement made to repair the Telegraph line. A force moves to-morrow into Kohistan to attack Mir Bucha, the principal leader of the Kohistanis in the recent disturbances."

*29th.*—General Roberts, further reports, dated 26th, that the city and surrounding country are quiet, the shops being opened gradually, and that in a few days supplies will probably be brought in as usual. One man R. A., wounded on the 23rd, has since died. The majority of the wounded are doing well.

*2nd.*—General Roberts telegraphs, Kabul 31st.—General Baker's bregade returns Kabul to-day. He reports that the headmen of the Kohistan villages in and about the districts visited are either in his Camp, or proceeding to Kabul to pay their respects. The 3rd Sikhs march to-day for Lataband. Captain Tucker, with a Squadron of the 12th B. C., reached Lataband on the 29th, and reports the country qiet, Communication with the Khaibar line is restored. Sir M. Kennedy and party leave Kabul on the 2nd January for India. People are returning in numbers to the city, and supplies are beginining to be brought in as usual.

*4th.*—Some influential men of the Hazara tribe from Ghazni direction have come in to General Roberts with offers of armed service. Postal arrangements between Jugdulluck and Kabul reestablished. Mohmunds are entirely quiet, and rumour that some had crossed the Kabul river proves unfounded.

*4th.*—General Roberts dated 1st January reports that some of the Hazara clan are said to have attacked the the wurdak people who fled from Kabul on the 23rd and people to get possession of Ghazni. By latest reports Ghazni was held for us by Hazaras and others well disposed towards the British. General Bakis force returned from Kohistan on 31st without a shot having been fired. Most of the wounded are doing well. Colonel Cleland and all the wounded officers are out of danger.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

| MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shajehanpore Literary Institute | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Abdool Wassy Ahmed, Diamond Harbour | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Secretary Friends Library, Ghatteswara | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Lal Bahadoor Singh, Azaigurh | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| District Engineer, Hooghly and Howrah | 6 | 8 | 0 |
| His Highness the Moharaja of Joypore | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| M. L. Dey Esq., Glasgow | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| President of the Macordah Reading club. | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Secretary coimbattore Literary Institute | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Secretary Bombay Association | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| Secretary Musulipatam Association | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Baboo Shibchunder Banerjee, Doomraon | 19 | 14 | 0 |
| " Monmohun Sircar, Rampore Bauleah | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| " Bishnoochunder Moitra, Azamgarh | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| " Womeschunder Das Goopta, Patuakhally | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| " Suttoprosunno Ghose, chinsurah | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| " Kissorymohun Chowry, Sherepore | 10 | 8 | 0 |
| " Dwarkanath Roy, Purneah | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| " Tinkory chowdry, Kanoo Junction | 3 | 0 | 0 |


# Advertisements.

## NOTICE.

Persons exercising any trade, profession or calling within the Town, are reminded that they should at once apply for Licenses in accordance with the third Schedule of Act IV. of 1876 for the year 1880 as all Licenses granted in 1819 expired on the 31st of December last.

Notice is hereby given that under Section 67 of Act IV. B. C of 1876 Licenses for Carriages, Horses, Ponies or Mules kept within the Town for the half year commencing from 1st of January 1880 should be taken out at once. Parties failing to take out Licenses will be prosecuted without further notice.

S. D. SEIN,
*Asstt. License Officer.*

SCHEDULE.

| | Per Half-year. Rs. | As. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses ... | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds to the above rate ... | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands ... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate ... | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| For every two-wheeled carriage ... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| For every horse *(not a race horse)* pony or mule ... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| For every race horse ... | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| Eor every pony or mule under thirteen hands ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that the registration of Carts, Hackeries and other wheeled Vehicle without springs for the first half-year of 1880 will under Section 83 of Act IV B.C. of 1876 commence from the 1st of January 1880, and that a fee of Rs. 4 will be required at the time for each registration, under Section 85 of Act IV B.C. of 1876.

By order
S. D. SEIN,
*Registrar of Carts and Hackeries.*

## Notice.

Krishnaghur Exhibition—an Exhibition of Cattle, Agricultural produce, Fruits, Vegetables, Implements of husbandry, Machines and other articles, will be held in the Town of Krishnaghur, from the 12th to the 17th February next, both days inclusive. Prizes will be awarded to the Exhibitors of the best specimens.

The Exhibition will afford a good opportunity to Traders to dispose of their articles.

TARAPADA BANERJI,
*Honorary Secretary.*

## Notice.

The attention of Native Noblemen and Gentlemen of English literary tastes is requested to the accompanying catalogue of standard works now on sale—as a complete Library in the Exchange Hall, (Messrs. Mackenzie Lyall & Co.)

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS.

| AUTHOR. | WORKS. | VOLUMES. |
|---|---|---|
| Sir Walter Scott.... | Waverly Novels *complete*... | 48 |
| | Tales of a grand-father..... | 3 |
| | Lady of the Lake..... | 1 |
| Thackeray ..... | Complete works..... | 22 |
| | Round about Papers..... | 1 |
| Macaulay ..... | Complete works..... | 8 |
| | Life & Letters (by his sister) | 2 |
| Buckle ..... | History of Civilization..... | 3 |
| Lecky ..... | Rise and Influence of Rationalism in Europe ... | 1 |
| | History of European Morals | 2 |
| Washington Irving ... | Conquest of Granada ..... | 1 |
| W. H. Prescott... | History of the Conquest of Mexico ..... | 2 |
| | Ditto Peru ..... | 2 |
| Herbert Spencer ... | *Education;* Intellectual, Moral and Physical... | 1 |
| | Study of Sociology ..... | 1 |
| | *Essays,* Scientific, Political and Speculative..... | 3 |
| Huxley..... | Critiques and Essays ..... | 1 |
| | Lay Sermons, addresses and Reviews..... | 1 |
| Wallace ..... ..... | Australasia ..... | 1 |
| Byron ..... | Complete Works ..... | 10 |
| Algernon Swinburne | 'Songs before Sunrise' ..... | 1 |
| | 'Chastelard' *a Tragedy* ... | 1 |
| | 'Bothwell'..... | 1 |
| | Poems Ballad ..... | 1 |
| | 'The Queen Mother and Rosamond' ..... | 1 |
| | 'Atalanta in Calydon' ..... | 1 |
| | Ode on the rise of the French *Republic* ..... | 1 |
| | 'William Blake,' a critical Essay..... | 1 |
| Tennyson ..... | 'Idylls of the King' ..... | 2 |
| John Bright..... | Speeches on Public Policy... | 2 |
| Richard Cobden ..... | Political Writings..... | 2 |
| Fuller ..... | The Wisdom of our Fathers. | 1 |
| Johnston ..... | Chemistry of Common Life.. | 1 |
| Beeton ..... | Dictionary of Universal Information ..... | 1 |
| Robert Burns ..... | Complete Works ..... | 1 |
| Shakespeare..... | Complete Works ..... | 1 |
| Nassau Lees..... | Land and Labour of India | 1 |
| Edgar Allan Poe..... | Tales ..... ..... | 1 |
| Brete Harte..... | Glories of the Sierias..... | 1 |
| Jules Verve..... | 'From the Earth to the Moon' | 1 |
| Phil Robinson ..... | In my Indian Garden ..... | 1 |
| Tenniel..... | Cartoons from 'Punch'.... | 1 |
| | 'Disræli' ..... | |
| | 'Gladstone' ..... | |
| | 'Bright' ..... | |
| Canon Liddon ..... | Some Elements of Religion. | 1 |
| Principal Talloch ... | Some facts of Religion & Life | 1 |
| Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. | Sermods ..... | 1 |

This library of Books—all handsomely bound—is contained in a polished Ebony Cabinet, Elaborately carved, with Glass doors.

*Price, Rs.* 1000—(Library and Cabinet complete.)
*Now on view in the Exchange Hall.*

NOTICE.

G. R. Naylor, M.D., M. R. C. S., late of Chitpure Dispensary, available for private practice, 256, Bowbazaar Street.

## Lime Supply for Bengal.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the leases of the undermentioned Lime-Quarries situate in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Assam, will be put up to AUCTION sale at the office of the Deputy-Commissioner of Sylhet at noon on the 31st of January 1880.

The leases will be for three years and nine months commencing from 1st February 1880 and ending 31st October 1883.

Not more than three leases will be permitted to be purchased in one interest.

Any quarry not worked, *i. e.*, not worked to turn out more than 40,000 maunds per annum, will be liable to resumption, and the Government will be at liberty to work such resumed quarry by direct agency.

The rent will be payable half-yearly in advance.

Further conditions will be duly notified at the time of sale.

| No. | Names of quarries, | Where situate. |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Jaintia Hills.* |
| 1 | Nongthalong Poonjee ... | *North.*—By Padoo and Pamtadong Poonjees. *South.*—By boundary of Sylhet district. *East.*—By old road leading from the plains to Amwie Poonjee. *West.*—By Moonghat river and Borseel. |
| 2 | Moorali Cherra .. | *North.*—By Sootang Poonjee. *South.*—By northern boundary of Rowai lime-quarry. *East.*—By Looba or Looke river. *West.*—By Western limit of lands appertaining to Moorali Poonjee. |
| 3 | Roopnath ... | *North.*—As far as limestone exists northward within lands pertaining to the village of Roopnath. *South.*—By boundary of Sylhet district. *East.*—By Ooloo Cherra river. *West.*—By old road leading to Amwie Poonjee from the plains. |
| 4 | Lama Pooshee ... | *North.*—By Lakadong. *South.*—By boundary of Rowai limestone quarry. *East.*—By western boundary of the lands pertaining to Morali Poonjee. *West.*—By Moonghat river and Borseel. *Malai Soh-mot State.* *Khasi Hills.* |
| 5 | Nokria Cherra ... | *North.*—By south bank of Majdoora. *South.*—By Pandendish jungle. *East.*—By Mashim Khasia's garden. *West.*—By Shia Sing Khasia's garden. *Maharam State.* *Khasi Hills.* |
| 6 | RamsemdemRajke | *North.*—By Chapagar. *South.*—By Pook Cherra. *East.*—By Kalaram Rai Cherra. *West*—By Hurrin Tilla Dhul. *Bhowal State.* *Khasi Hills.* |
| 7 | Bhowal Cherra ... | *North.*—By Chota Teekar Tilla. *South.*—By Kala Pani, *alias* Pukri Blei. *East.*—By Mongla-mora Tilla. *West*—By Cherra Khowri Cherra *Maodon* *Khasi Hills* |
| 8 | Ka Long Long ... | *North*—By Maw Ngein *South*—By Chillai Cherra *East*—By Umjinden Cherra *West*—By Waiblei and Chilla Cherra *Maharam State* *Khasi Hills* |
| 9 | Tangla ... | *North*—By Komoni Teekor as far as limebeds exist *South*—By Pak Cherra *East*—By Dhaymalia river *West*—By Kalaram Rai Cherra *Maharam and Maiong* *Khasi Hills* |
| 10 | Manai Cherra ... | *North*—, *South*—, *East*— By forest and jungle lands pertaining to Maharam *West*—By Jadukata, *alias* Pona-thirth river *Maodon* *Khasi Hills* |
| 11 | Umjindem ... | *North*—By Lumrai-by-nem *South*—By Lum Tenget *East*—By Umiap *West*—By Umjindem Cherra *Dwara Nongtyrmen* *Khasi Hills* |
| 12 | Bor Syrmai ... | *North*—By Pan garden *South*—By Ka Lad-Luka *East*—By Lumdilong *West*—By Lum-raitruth *Khasi Hills* |
| 13 | Silai Cherra ... | *North*—By Lum-khar-proh *South*—By Um-sao-leim *East*—By Silai river *West*—By Lum-di-long *Khyrim.* *Khasi Hills* |
| 14 | Mokertilla .. | *East*—By the Moonghat river *West and North*—By lands pertaining to Maotoon and Umshapiang Poonjees *South*—By the Pyen river |

W. F TROTTER,
*Offg Deputy-Commissioner*
*Khasi and Jaintia Hills.*

SHILLONG:
*Deputy Commissioner's Office,*
*The 23rd December* 1879.

## NOTICE.

1. An Exhibition of Live-stock, Agricultural Implements, Produce, Arts and Manufactures will be held at Ranaghat on the 26th, 27th and 28th January 1880.,

2. The Exhibition Committee consists of the following gentlemen.

## RANAGHAT AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION

TO BE HELD ON THE
*26th January* 1880.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. F. B. Peacock, Esq., C.S. | *Commissioner of the Presy. Dn.* | *Patrons.* |
| 2. P. D. Dickens, Esq., C.S. | *District Judge.* | |
| Dr. Rajendralal Mitra, LL.D., C.I.E. | | |
| 3. W. V. G. Taylor, Esq., C.S. | *Dist. Magistrate.* | *Patron and President.* |
| 4. Surgeon-Major C. E. W. Bensley, Esq. | *Civil Surgeon....* | *Vice-Presidents.* |
| 5. Babu Chunder Sekhar Banerji.. | *Sub-Divl. Officer* | |
| 6. ,, Surendranath Palchaudhuri | *Zemindar* | *Secretary.* |
| 7. ,, Bholanath Mukherji, | *Superintendent* | *Assistant do.* |
| 8. ,, Gopal Chandra Banerji | *Sub-Deputy Collector* | *Treasurer.* |
| 9. The Municipal Commissioners of Ranaghat and Santipur | | *Members of the Managing Committee.* |
| Babu Rajendrakumar Bose | | *Munsiff.* |
| ,, Bhuvan Mohan Mitra | | *Pleader.* |
| ,, Annadaprosad Mukherji | | *Zemindar.* |
| ,, Sambhunath Mukherji | | |
| ,, Jadov Chunder Pramanik | | *Sub-Regr.* |
| ,, Haridas Ray | | *Zemindar.* |
| ,, Syamlal Sinha | | *Sub-Regr.* |
| ,, Dinanath Sannyal | | |
| ,, Prasanna Kumar Sen. | | |
| ,, Siv Krishna Ray | | *Sub-Regr.* |
| ,, Ram Chunder Mukherji | | *Govt. Pleader.* |
| ,, Dwarkanath Sarkar | | *Distt. Engineer.* |
| E. M. Showers, Esq. | | *Distt. Supdt. of Police.* |
| J. Landale, Esq. | | *Locomotive Supdt.* |
| C. M. Monk, Esq. | | *Supdt. Ry. Police.* |
| Babu Syama Churn Sarkar. | | |
| ,, Kedar Nath Mukherji. | | |
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With powers to add to to their number.

3. A mela or Fair will be attached to the Exhibition yard.

4. The Committee will undertake to provide accomodation for the opening of the shops and amusements such as Athletic, Theatrical performances, Fire Works, &c., for the visitors.

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| Fillet | Rs. | 12-0 | 12-8, | 13-8, | 14-8 | 16-0, | 17-8 each. |
| Oak... | ,, | 12-4, | 12-12, | 13-12, | 14-12, | 16-4, | 17-12 ,, |

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| Black (T. E. T.'s Lock) | Rs. | 12-0, | 16-0, | 20-0, | 25-8 | each. |
| Fillet | ,, | ,, | 16-0, | 20-0, | 20-8, | 28-0 each |
| Oak | ,, | ,, | 17-0, | 20-0, | 24-8, | 30-0 each |
| Black (Barron's | ,, | ,, | 11-0, | 14-0, | 17-8, | 21-8 each |
| Fillet | ,, | ,, | 15-0, | 17-8, | 21-0, | 25 0 each |
| Black (Tumbler) | ,, | ,, | 8-8, | 12-8, | 16-0, | 20-0 each |
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|---|---|---|---|
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**Round Sugar Boxes.**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rs. | 1-0, | 1-2, | 1-4, | 1-8, | 2-4, | 3, | 3-12 each. |

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**Vice-Presidents.**

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

**Report by the Directors**

PRESENTED TO THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY, *Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April*, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

**Life Business.**

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £33,,022-17-3.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 20 Endowments, were 262 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amounts, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £220,243-10, after deducting reassurances.

The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,852,566-11-3, being £140,689-19-8 above what it was on 31st December, 1877. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

**Annuity Business.**

In the Annuity Department 55 Bonds were issued securing the sum of £2,969-0-6 yearly, and for which, the Company received the sum of £28,892-9-4.

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CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
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The capabilities which have now for so many years distinguished these Crucibles are the following :—

Their quality is uniform. They withstand the greatest heat without danger. Their average durability for Gold, Silver, Copper, and other ordinary Metals is forty to fifty pourings, in some cases over one hundred have been obtained. They never crack, and heat more rapidly than any other kind. One annealing only required. Change of temperature has no effect. They can when hot from the furnace be dipped in cold water with safety. The saving of labour and metal is very great. In *Steel Melting* the saving of fuel has been demonstrated to amount to a ton and half to every Ton of Steel fused. For *Zinc* they last longer than iron pots, and save the great loss which arises from mixture with iron. Those for *Malleable Cast Iron* can be used for several days, doing each day nearly double the work of any other Crucible.

As these Crucibles last longer than others it follows that the Saving of Metal must be great, because to each worn Crucible a quantity of Metal adheres. In fact, comparing Morgan's Patent with other Crucibles, the *Saving of Metal, Time*, and *Fuel* alone is more than equivalent to *their cost*.

A. Made in sizes varying from 2oz. to any required capacity, and are marked by the number of seers they will contain, thus—No. 5 will contain 5 seers Copper. No. 100=100 seers No. 200=200 seers. No. 300=300 seers. No. 400=400 seers.

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|---|---|---|---|
| Crucibles | ... ... .. | 4 annas per No. | |
| Stands... | .. .. ... | 2 „ | „ |
| Covers... | .. ... ... | 2 „ | „ |
| Stirrers | ... ... | Re. 1 | each. |

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ANY SIZES OF THE ABOVE CRUCIBLES, FROM 0000 TO 150, SUPPLIED FROM STOCK.

THE PATENT PLUMBAGO CRUCIBLE COY.'S SALAMANDER CRUCIBLES.

*Which do not require annealing and do not absorb moisture.*

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THE SPECIAL ADVANTAGES OF THE PATENT FURNACE.

It has no fire bars as in the ordinary brass furnaces, but a solid dished bottom instead. Should the crucible leak or the metal be accidentally spilt it runs down into the dished bottom and is there collected in a convenient form for remelting. On account of the blast entering the furnace above the place where the metal would lie there will be no necessity, in the event of an accident, to stop working; the metal will take no harm, but can be removed at night when the dished bottom is opened to clean away the slag and take out the stand. All time usually spent in washing and smelting brass ashes is therefore saved by this arrangement. There is a *great saving in coke*. Much less than half the quantity required in the ordinary fires, for a given weight of metal, is necessary in melting in this furnace. *The rapidity of melting*—120 lbs of brass can be run down in half an hour, starting with a cold furnace, subsequent meltings of course being made much more quickly. *Small coke* may be used if a start be given with a bottom of ordinary sized pieces, thus utilising that which for general foundry purposes is useless. *The certainty with which metal can be melted*, it being a well-known fact with casters that with ordinary furnaces, the state of the atmosphere seriously affects the draught and time of fusion. *If the outlet B* is led into a chimney stack the furnace can be worked without a blast, thus obviating the necessity of suspending operations while the fan is not running. After using the furnace, in the event of another heat not being immediately required, it is only requisite to shut off the blast, take out the crucible, and close the lid, and the furnace will keep alight for several hours without the addition of fresh fuel.

*Its capabilities* (now practically proved by many eminent firms) are as follows :—Previous to his invention of this furnace the Patentee had *four* of the ordinary furnaces with fire bars in them in full work, and one 60 lb. crucible in each, but since adopting this furnace he has dispensed with the ordinary furnaces, and is now working with one patent furnace in their place, using a Morgan's Patent Crucible, 100 lb. size, and doing more work.

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NOTICE.

On and from 1st January 1880, Sara Station, between Sara Ghaut and Gopalpur; Panchbibi Station, between Jaipur and Hillee, and Mandalghaut Station, between Huldibari and Julpaiguri, will be closed and neither Goods nor Passengers will be booked at or to these stations after midnight of 31st December 1879.

By Order
G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Superintendent.

Traffic Superintendent's Office,
Saidpur 20th December, 1879.

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In the Press, and will be shortly issued, the public Addresses and Speeches of BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEA, in one volume, cloth-bound.

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